

TREVOR FRANCIS in double-page colour

SHOOT!

18p

17th MARCH, 1979

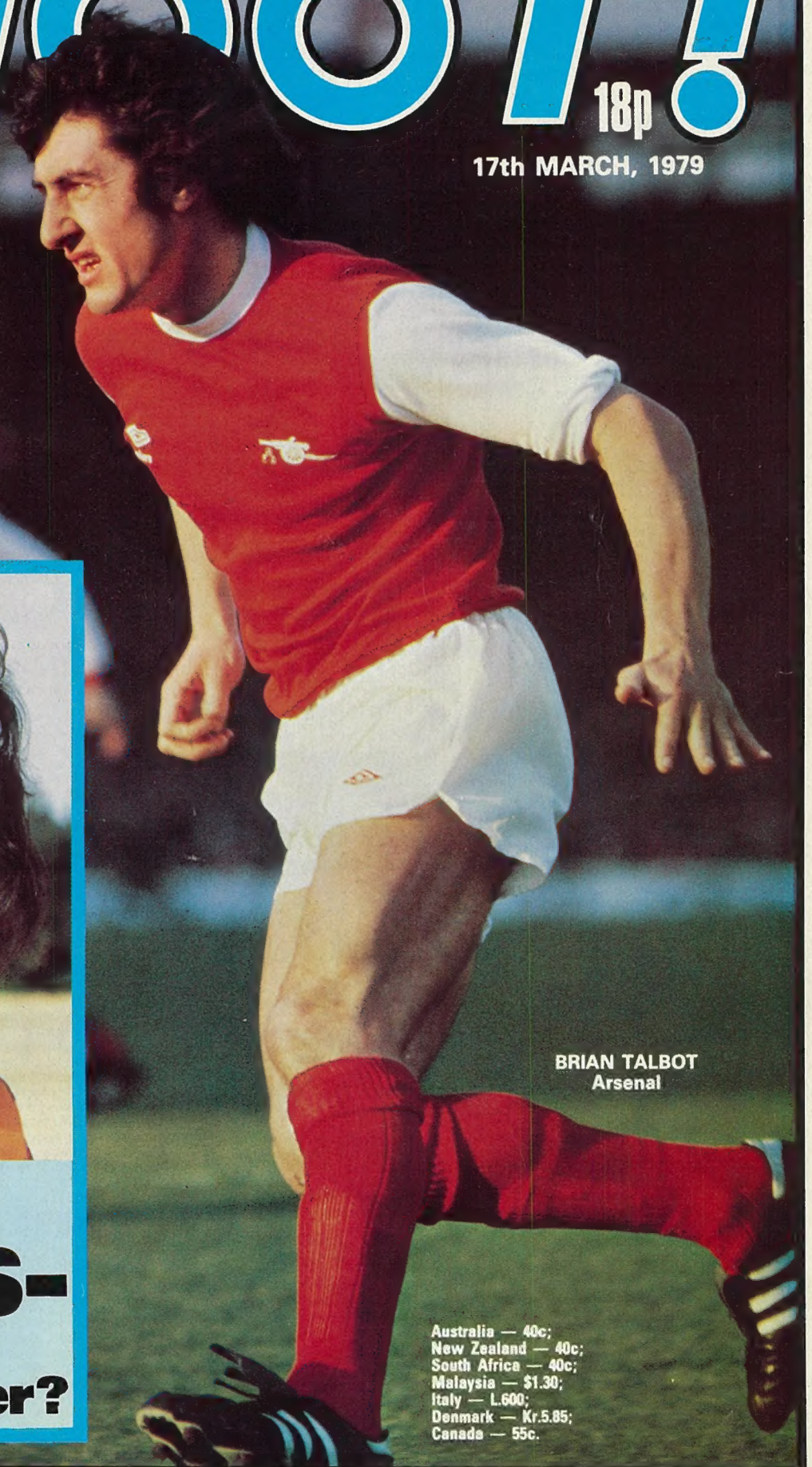
Photos and Features:

**F.A. CUP
ROUND 6**

**SCOTTISH CUP
ROUND 5**



**MARIO
KEMPES-**
superstar or
12-day wonder?



BRIAN TALBOT
Arsenal

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SCOTS ON THE MOVE . . . Jim Docherty, East Stirling's exciting young striker, recently joined Chelsea for £65,000. Sheffield Wednesday, after having a bid of £45,000 turned down, got Aberdeen attacker Ian Fleming for £60,000. Celtic have been linked with both Jim Holton (Coventry) and Gregor Stevens (Motherwell). American side Washington Diplomats, who recently bought Argentinian World Cup skipper Daniel Passarella, are expected to pay out £100,000 for Aberdeen's unsettled winger Ian Scanlon, who cost the Pittodrie club only £15,000 from Notts County last season.

FACTastic

ON Wednesday, November 26, 1958, Arsenal club-mates Jack Kelsey and Danny Clapton played for Wales and England respectively at Villa Park, Birmingham. The result was a 2-2 draw. Immediately after the final whistle they were driven to London in a fast car and arrived back at Highbury in time to appear in a friendly match against Juventus. Those were the days . . .

NOT many people were aware it was Jimmy Mullen wearing the No. 5 shirt for Sheffield Wednesday when the Yorkshiremen met Arsenal at Highbury on the 9th January in the replay of the Third Round F.A. Cup-tie. He wasn't mentioned in the programme, which misled most of the 35,000 gate and many reporters.

It must have been a bit galling for Mullen who came into the side to replace Mike Pickering, out through suspension.

Although far from match fit after a long lay off because of injury, Mullen turned in a great performance only to end the game getting ten stitches in a hand which was trampled on during extra-time!

All that gutters is not football did I hear you say?

Swans to return

SWANSEA City, who pulled out of the Football Combination midway through the season four years ago, have applied to rejoin the competition.

The ambitious Third Division club are hoping to improve the standard of football available at reserve level.

The Swans withdrew from the Combination in November, 1974, after completing 14 of their fixtures, claiming the move would save them £10,000 per year.

Now manager John Toshack says: "We feel the second team need a higher level of competition than the Welsh League can offer."



HUNTER WON'T BE A BOSS

NORMAN Hunter wants to become a coach, NOT a manager, when he retires from professional football.

"I don't think I want to stay in football as a manager," he wrote in a recent match programme at Bristol City.

"But if I do stay on, I would prefer it to be as a coach, helping young players."

Norman is currently helping a team of youngsters in Bristol, who play in a local League.

Will he leave City when his contract expires at the end of the season?

"I can't give a hard and fast answer now," says Norman. "It depends on several factors, chiefly what happens during the rest of this season, but I think I'll be staying on."

'Don't Jeer John'

pleads Spurs boss



THE Spurs fans who boo John Pratt are making life very difficult for manager Keith Burkinshaw.

The White Hart Lane boss admits: "It's a tricky situation. John does a good job for the team and much of his defensive work and covering is not noticed by our supporters."

"No player likes the crowd getting on the back of him. It's a pity because while our fans have turned up in great numbers this season, our home form has been disappointing."

"If we had a reasonable record at White Hart Lane we'd be right up there with the leaders. Our crowd becomes impatient and doesn't really get behind us until we score. The players often feel a little more relaxed and at ease away."

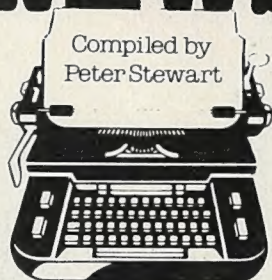
Pratt may not have the skills of Ardiles and Hoddle, but without his unselfish running and hard work such ball-players wouldn't be able to play their natural game.

It is always sad to hear a crowd jeer a player and Pratt has given Spurs good service over the years. He deserves better treatment from the club's fans.

ONE of the hottest properties at present in the Republic of Ireland is Bohemians striker Paddy Joyce. A former Eire Youth international, Paddy only made his League debut this season and has already attracted the attention of scouts from several top English clubs, including Coventry, Manchester United and Everton.

NEWS

Compiled by
Peter Stewart



DESK

CELTIC'S SUPER UNLUCKY FAN

FANS, of course, are the lifeblood of soccer. Without them there would be no big clubs and there seems no end to the bother they will go to in an effort to support their particular favourites.

However, spare a thought for Karl Schwanz, who must be one of the unluckiest fans in the world. West German Karl, who stays just outside Frankfurt, is Celtic crazy and has made several journeys from his homeland to see the Parkhead giants, but so far he has been extremely unfortunate.

Look at this catalogue of woe. In '76 he wanted to see Celtic in action against Rangers and managed to hitch-hike to London. However, he couldn't get a lift to complete the journey in time and had to return to West Germany.

A year later Karl made it all the way to Glasgow . . . only to find the game postponed because of the weather! Undeterred, Karl arrived in Glasgow this season and to prove he wasn't going to take No — or Nein — for an answer he had arranged to see Celtic in THREE matches against Hearts, Motherwell and Rangers.

Amazingly, all three games were put off by the weather and Karl left for home wondering when he was going to ever get to see his team in action. Remember, Karl, if at first you don't succeed, try, try again!

Why is Karl a Celtic fan in the first place? That's a good question. He picked up the match commentary of a Celtic v Rangers game at Ibrox one year and was caught up in all the excitement and since then has been a Celtic super fan as well as being a super unlucky fan.

NEWLY-appointed Glentoran player-boss Ronnie McFall's first major signing since taking control at The Oval was his one-time Portadown team-mate Gary Blackledge, one of Ulster's most prolific marksmen in recent seasons.

Irish Under-21 cap Gary, in the transfer spotlight for some time, totalled around 70 senior goals in a three-year spell as a Ports' regular, his freescore consistency bringing him within an ace of full international recognition.

North and South

Middlesbrough Supporters Club are anxious that their fans in the South should know they run a London branch of The Boro Supporters Club.

The man to contact is Mr G. Millward, of 42 Heber Road, London NW2.

And I've been asked to point out Arsenal fans are forming a Northern Branch. Anyone interested can receive further details from Mrs Veronica McGannan, "Highbury", 6 Dale Croft, Ilkley, West Yorkshire.

Please remember in both cases . . . enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

WORST IN FIRST

NORWICH City, blasted by manager John Bond after their F.A. Cup defeat at Leicester, are left with the worst record of the 22 First Division clubs in the competition — following Tottenham's 3-0 replay win against Altrincham at Maine Road, the Londoners first Third Round win since their 6-0 success at Margate in 1972-73.

Norwich went out for the third successive year in the Third Round — after needing three attempts to qualify for the Fourth Round at the expense of Rochdale in 1975-76.

TERRY Curran, Southampton's League Cup hero was the subject of a recent bid by Jack Charlton's Sheffield Wednesday. But, because of Saints' success in reaching the Final, further negotiations will have to wait.

WHY ALBION DIDN'T SELL ALLY BROWN

ALLY Brown (right, stripes) has been the big success story at West Bromwich Albion over the past 12 months.

The former Leicester City player has to thank Scottish international Willie Johnston for his change of fortunes because it was the little winger, ironically out of the first team at the present time, who suggested to manager Ron Atkinson Brown should be given his chance.

Atkinson was debating his possible line-up for his first away match in charge of the Albion side at Manchester United and took Johnston's advice.

Brown has responded in fine style with a string of vital goals.

Atkinson said: "It now seems absurd when I came here they were prepared to let Ally Brown go for £25,000. Now it is very difficult to put a price on his head."

ROY Martin, 49-year-old former Birmingham City and Derby County full-back, has been appointed manager of Southern League Bromsgrove Rovers. He has been in charge of the reserves for more than a year and succeeds Frank O'Hare.

FUND'S BOOST

THE testimonial fund set up for John Robson when it was discovered that the Aston Villa defender would be forced to quit playing is expected to top the £100,000 mark.

Robson has multiple sclerosis and by making it public knowledge he has in no small way boosted funds to fight the illness.

The former Derby County player said: "The money will provide financial security for my family."

"What is also very pleasing is there are so many people around who are willing to help."

"I am very indebted to these people and I've discovered some very good friends."

One of these friends has now offered Robson a job as a trainee manager in his firm.

Double Life

LEICESTER City manager Jock Wallace, once goalkeeper at West Brom and Hereford, is one of very few soccer folk who have led a "double life" in the game. At start of season 1967-68 he was Hearts' trainer for most of the week. For the rest he managed Berwick Rangers and also kept goal for them!

TOP Norwegian team Lillestroem recently defeated a Bobby Charlton All-Star XI 7-1 in Drammen, near Oslo. Among the players in Bobby's experienced side were Ian Callaghan, Tommy Smith, Peter Thompson and Peter Lorimer.



FOLLOWING in father's footsteps — that's 19-year-old Chelsea centre-half Torweth Jenkins. His dad played for Wales as a schoolboy and Youth and Neath-born Torweth has done precisely the same.

JOHN McDermott, a regular with Manchester United reserves last season, has joined Limerick on a trial period.

SCOTLAND'S European Championship match against Belgium, which was postponed in February, may not now go on until at least a year. The SFA would have preferred a date in the near future.

'Scotland's best back'

IPSWICH manager Bobby Robson is just left wondering why Scotland have overlooked his right-back George Burley (right, on the ball).

"If Scotland have a better full-back than this boy, I would like to see him," says Robson.

"Burley has been turning in outstanding performances for three years now and he still doesn't get his chance. I just don't know what he has to do."

"Scotland manager Jock Stein must get to know East Anglia and pay us a visit some time."

Burley, 22-year-old Cumnock-born defender, was a member of the Ipswich team which won the F.A. Youth Cup in 1972-73. He turned professional in June, 1973. Six months later he had forced his way into the Ipswich team for his League debut against Manchester United.

Burley, who has appeared regularly for the Scottish Under-21 side, must surely be knocking at the door this season for full honours.

Monty's "Ghost" laid

SUNDERLAND'S goalkeeper Barry Siddall (right) reckons he has finally laid the ghost of Jim Montgomery.

The former Bolton goalkeeper took time to win round all the fans after taking over from Montgomery, a Roker Park hero after the 1973 F.A. Cup Final.

Siddall claims he was below his best last season, but is confident he has reached top form in Sunderland's promotion chase this term.

"I went back to basics," he says. "I worked on handling, positioning — and I think it has worked."

Terry Goes Back — Peter Departs

NORTHERN Ireland Under-21 international defender Terry Hayes recently returned to Irish League kingpins Linfield, after a ten-month spell with Second Division Luton Town.

And, after lengthy transfer speculation, Blues' Inter-League midfielder Peter Dorman finally decided to have a second go at the Football League, when he joined Swindon Town in a £30,000 deal.

Stylish Peter, who teams-up with another ex-Linfield ace, Bryan Hamilton, at the County Ground, had a brief spell with Sheffield United, two seasons ago, but then decided to return home to finish his Law studies.

A select number of players since the War have figured in winning Finalist teams in both the F.A. Cup and Scottish Cup, but could you name the only one among them who has captained victorious sides in both? Actually, he's Martin Buchan — Aberdeen (in 1970) and Manchester United (1977).



IF THE League season extends beyond May — as seems likely — it could mean Eire and Northern Ireland will be short of several stars for their European Championship games on May 2nd.

Eire are at home to Denmark and Northern Ireland play Bulgaria in Belfast, and with England idle that week, clubs may be reluctant to release their players.

Morgan — second thoughts

CARDIFF'S assistant-manager Brian Harris has admitted he questioned the ability of Richie Morgan to succeed as boss of the Ninian Park club after Jimmy Andrews was sacked.

The former Everton and Cardiff defender says: "I knew Richie and I liked him, but I thought: How can they appoint a bloke who has played only 80 first team games in 12 years? I asked myself: How does he go from the second team dressing room to the manager's chair?"

Now Harris says: "Having worked with Richie for a while I must admit he's surprised me. He knows what the game is all about all right, and I know I can work with him. Together we can make a good team."



Luton's new M.D.

LEICESTER City's secretary John Smith will join Luton Town as managing director in April.

At 40, Smith becomes one of the youngest boardroom chiefs in the Football League. He was appointed secretary at Leicester in succession to Eddie Plumley.

He was formerly secretary at Queens Park Rangers and was with the North American League Club, now known as the Cosmos.

He becomes the second managing director of an English League club. The first was Jimmy Hill, at Coventry.

Smith's duties will not be confined solely to administrative matters.

"Luton have very simple ambitions — to get to the First Division and then into Europe," he explained. "The club was in a mess at one time but they worked their way out of that, and now they want somebody to run it for them."

"I'll be taking a good look at every aspect of the set up for a few months before considering changes but there are one or two ideas that I'd like to see implemented immediately."

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JAN.
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WOULD WASH
HIM AWAY.

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STRAIGHT I WAS.
THEN I BUMPED
INTO THIS GREAT
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THE BOOZER.
DEAD RINGER
OF MY OLD MATE
STAN. HE WAS.

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'THE TOP

As usual, there won't be any Liverpool players present at the Hilton Hotel on Sunday, March 18th, when the Professional Footballers' Association honour their Player of the Year, Young Player of the Year and the Divisional Award winners.

Not because players from my club are unlikely to get amongst the awards; it's just that the boss won't release us to go wining and dining when in a few days' time we'll be involved in a vital League game.

Picking up points is more important at this stage of the season.

Considering the club honours Liverpool have collected over the years since I've been in the first team — two League Championships, the F.A. Cup, two U.E.F.A. Cups and two European Cups, it's amazing our players have figured so small in the P.F.A. awards.



'I voted for



AWARDS FOR PLAYERS'

RAY CLEMENCE talking soccer

Perhaps other players feel we already have more than our fair share of honours, but it's more probable they have a high regard for us collectively and not as outstanding individuals.

There's no denying we all rate recognition by our peers as the ultimate accolade, even above the coveted writers' awards, an attitude

Liam Brady...

shared by members of every professional body.

Right now, Cliff Lloyd, secretary of the P.F.A., and his staff in Birmingham are adding up the nominations sent in by all players.

Scrutinised

For the Divisional awards we were allowed only to vote for players from others clubs in the top flight. When Steve Heighway, our P.F.A. representative, collected up the voting papers, he scrutinised them first before posting them. And it was a good job he did so. For one of the Liverpool team had selected Crystal Palace's Kenny Sansom as his representative left-back — a Second Division player — and Kevin Keegan, who has been playing in Germany now for two seasons, as one of his strikers.

The culprit, who shall be nameless, is still getting stick for his double-blunder.

Despite the fact Liverpool lads rarely get selected, I think the awards are a marvellous idea and give players something extra to aim for. However, I do have one criticism, and that is the voting is done at the wrong time. At the moment, we judge players on their performances over the end of last season and the first half of this, whereas I feel it would be fairer if voting took place at the end of a season.

Having said that, I'm sure in a few months' time I won't regret having nominated Liam Brady as my Players' Player of the Year.

In past seasons Liam has promised so much, and it's only since the big kick-off last August he's realised all his potential and is giving consistently high performances week-in, week-out.

I have tremendous admiration for the way in which he has turned what could be a handicap into a great strength. He is so one-footed,

the left, it's mind-boggling how superbly he can tackle, dribble and shoot.

I can think of only two other completely left-footed players who have achieved great stature in the game: Puskas of Real Madrid, the six-times European Cup winners; and Norman Hunter, now with Bristol City, who won a fistful of medals with Leeds United.

For my Young Player of the Year I plumped for Kenny Sansom of Palace, who I have only seen once "live", playing for England Under-21's in Copenhagen against Denmark in a match they won 2-1. That showing, plus those I've seen him give on TV, earned him my vote.

Kenny is a marvellous prospect without a weakness: a player with everything going for him.

He's quick on the turn, an incisive tackler, good with both feet and will get into an attacking position without feeling embarrassed to be there. Too many full-backs become indecisive around the oppositions goal and squander the chance to make a killing pass or have a crack at goal.

It's only a question of time before he plays in the England full side. But he must be looking sideways at Derek Statham of West Brom, another fine left-back prospect who'll be challenging him for the position.

It's unfortunate to have two players with little to choose between them vying with each other, and I sympathise through being in the same situation with Peter Shilton.

As you would expect, it's Peter I

standing he has developed with Peter Shilton.

In one-and-a-half seasons in the First, Viv has learnt many lessons and improved considerably since his Second Division days. Ungainly at times, he is still an exciting sight as he charges upfield with the ball or comes back to dispossess an



and Kenny Sansom'

chose to be "number one" in my P.F.A. First Division team, a man I regard highly both for his playing ability and his friendship.

Since joining Forest from Stoke, he has kept so many clean sheets that it's true to say he's one of the main reasons for their success in League and Cups.

For my right-back berth I deliberated between Viv Anderson, Peter's team-mate, and Pat Rice, captain of Arsenal and Northern Ireland. Viv is a comparative newcomer to the First Division stage, whereas Pat Rice has graced it for many years, during which he has shown himself to be an inspiring influence on his team-mates.

Pat has never let Arsenal down, and collected Championship and Cup medals in Arsenal's double-win in 1971.

In the end I wrote down Viv's name, partly because of the under-

opponent with a sweep of one of his long legs. I'm told his team-mates have christened them "The Extension".

At left-back, for obvious reasons, I placed Derek Statham.

Constructive

For the centre of the back-four I chose David O'Leary of Arsenal, still young but mature in thought and deed. I rate him as the best centre-half, outside Liverpool, in Britain. Strong in the air, quick off the mark, and always constructive. Not for David the big, aimless boot out of defence that only worries scattering spectators.

To play on David's right I've selected Kenny Burns of Forest. Kenny came to the club from Birmingham with the reputation of being a trouble-maker, responded

to the big chance Brian Clough gave him and knuckled down to bringing out all his best qualities.

Peter Shilton has often told me of the unreserved respect he holds for Kenny.

The all-action Scot has been out with cartilage problems for a spell, and it's significant that since his return Forest have been winning more games.

On the left-hand side of midfield the spot goes to Liam Brady, of course.

Work-rate

In the centre, I'd slot Tony Currie, now at last adding work-rate to his undoubted skills.

Steve Coppell, another England team-mate of mine, hasn't been getting the publicity he deserves simply because the Manchester United team hasn't played to its potential.

But Steve is a success for club and country, and completes my midfield trio.

Up-front, I've coupled two players from West Bromwich Albion, the club emerging as Liverpool's strongest rivals for the Championship.

They're Cyrille Regis and Laurie Cunningham, who have grown to complement each other so effectively.

Laurie faded somewhat early last season, perhaps being overshadowed by Cyrille, but has regained all his thrust and menace.

Both of these coloured lads can score goals and make them for each other. One of their specialities is the long-range "bomber" shot, and whenever I'm playing against them I'm on my guard against one being fired my way.

The third member of my attacking force is Tony Woodcock, another player from Forest loaded with skill and unafraid of hard work. Apart from fulfilling a striker role, Tony could also double as a winger and send in crosses for Cyrille and Laurie.

I'd back my team against any other selected. Perhaps one of these days, for someone's testimonial, we'll see a game between two P.F.A. "select" sides. I'd certainly enjoy playing in it.

Ray Clemence



It all started on June 14th, 1978. Argentina v Poland. The 15th minute. "The move began with Ardiles, and then Bertoni picked the ball up. When he cut infield I guessed he was going to cross the ball and took up a position for the header smack in the middle of my forehead. Tomaszewski saw it too late to do anything about it. That goal changed my luck completely." On June 25th, Mario Kempes was doing the lap of honour with his teammates in the River Plate stadium. He'd scored five more times since that opening goal against Poland, and his two goals in the Final had clinched the World Cup for Argentina and had made him the tournament's top scorer. In the absence of superstars such as Cruyff and Beckenbauer and, in view of the disappointing performances of Rivelino, Zico, Fischer and Platini, the world acclaimed Mario Kempes as the new Number One. But, as World Cup memories fade into the past, is the 24-year-old Argentinian really the best? How good is Kempes? Graham Turner, our man in Spain, appraises the performance of Kempes since he experienced Utopia.

I'VE been keeping a close eye on Kempes since his arrival in Valencia in 1976 as a £275,000 'unknown' from Argentina. I knew all about his impressive scoring record with Rosario Central, scoring 93 times in just over two seasons, and I wondered if he'd adapt successfully to a more European style of football.

At first it looked as though he wouldn't. He floundered through Valencia's pre-season friendlies, missing easy chances and even fluffing a penalty. But, as the season got under way, Kempes proved his ability by scoring regularly, and in a season when he never failed to score in more than three consecutive games, he became top scorer in the Spanish League, with 24 goals in 34 appearances.

He also scored his goals spectacularly. Spanish television are still showing one of two he scored against Atlético Madrid. He had chested down a cross and volleyed home at top speed. Even though I've seen it a 100 times, it still excites me.

A lot of people thought that Kempes would be a 'one-season wonder'; that defenders would become wise to his tricks. But Mario responded with 28 goals in his second season, most of them

monitoring his every move. Even in the team's hotel, he was reduced to sneaking out of the restaurant, via the kitchens, in order to return to his room unmolested.

On top of this, he faced problems. Naturally, he was keen to turn his new-found fame to commercial advantage, and interminable rounds of talks negotiations and contract-signing took up a lot of Mario's time and attention.

He was trying to lead a private life and plan for his December wedding, so perhaps it was inevitable that his form should suffer.

"I recognise all the symptoms," says team-mate Rainer Bonhof. "I played well in the '74 World Cup and wanted to clinch some good commercial deals. There's no doubt that this seriously affected my attitude to the game. This is the problem that Mario is facing now."

The sad fact is that Kempes has averaged only a goal a month since the start of the new season, and Valencia fans have been finding it hard to conceal their disappointment. Obviously, Mario's World Cup 'hangover' goes a fair way to describe his temporary loss of form, but down in Valencia they're trying to work out why the club has never looked remotely like winning anything, even with the world's best striker in their line-up.

One of the question marks against Kempes is that, unlike Beckenbauer, Pelé, Cruyff, Keegan and

MARIO KEMPES

-Superstar or twelve-day wonder?

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EXISTENCIA

It's difficult to get away from Mario Kempes in Valencia!

equally spectacular, and topped the scoring charts once again. Having also scored ten times in six Cup games, his reputation was well established in Spain by the time he went off to join the Argentina World Cup squad last May.

Much to his credit, Mario hadn't become swollen headed during his two years of success in Valencia. When I'd first met him he was shy, modest and unassuming and when I wished him luck as he set off for Argentina, he was exactly the same.

When I next met him in Valencia in September, the picture had changed radically. "I'm trying to stay the same," he confessed, "but look at it. It's all crazy."

His World Cup fame had presented Kempes with different problems. Autograph hunters wherever he went; hordes of Press, radio and T.V. reporters

other "superstars", Kempes has rarely achieved success at club level. He joined Rosario Central in 1974 when the club had just won the Argentinian National Championship yet, in spite of 29 goals from newcomer Kempes, Central couldn't retain their title. In 1975 he scored 35 goals, but again Central weren't among the honours. In 1976 he scored 21 goals for Rosario and 24 for Valencia, but neither club won anything.

Obviously it's unfair to heap the blame for lack of success on to one man. At first glance it would seem that Mario was certainly doing his stuff in front of goal, so the conclusion is that his team-mates were letting him down. Rosario Central had a title-winning team before he joined them.

In his first year in Valencia he was the left-flank striker in a trio containing Dutch international

Johnny Rep and Paraguayan ace 'Lobo' Diarte. But the defence was poor; there were behind-the-scenes troubles; Rep wanted to leave; and manager Heriberto Herrera was sacked in mid-season. In fact, Kempes' personal success was the only bright note in a gloomy season for the club.

In 1977-78, temperamental French manager Marcel Domingo took over the side and, after another erratic campaign, Valencia at least managed to clinch a U.E.F.A. Cup place by finishing fourth.

Mario's debut in European competition wasn't exactly a sensa-

tion. He missed a penalty during Valencia's 2-1 defeat in Sofia against C.S.K.A., though he made amends by scoring twice in the 4-1 return-leg victory. He also scored twice against the modest Rumanians of Arges Pitesti but, as West Brom fans will have seen, he showed only brief flashes of brilliance during their two confrontations, even though Ron Atkinson's boys spared him the attention of a strict man-to-man marker.

By this time, Valencia had spent another million pounds in the transfer market, and had reinforced their midfield with German powerhouse Rainer Bonhof and

creative ball-player Daniel Solsona. In theory, goal-ace Kempes is now receiving excellent support and service from midfield, and his lack of goals seems all the more bewildering to the fans. To make matters worse, his fellow strikers, Felman and Diarte, have got accustomed to Mario scoring all the goals, and their own scoring rate has dropped off alarmingly.

Part of the problem could be that right-winger Johnny Rep was replaced with left-winger Dario Luis Felman, a fellow Argentinian from Boca Juniors. And, if you think back to Kempes' World Cup goals, in the majority of cases the

telling pass was a diagonal ball from the right, usually from right-winger Daniel Bertoni.

Kempes rarely received a good ball from left-winger Ortiz, and often seemed 'cramped' by having a left-winger too close to his 'inside-left' position. Valencia's system of playing without a recognised right-winger may be depriving Mario of the kind of passes he likes.

But, still with Kempes' lack of club success in mind, I took a more detailed look at the pattern of his scoring record. Now, to stand a chance of winning the Spanish League, a club has to, firstly, dispose convincingly of the small fry, whose only ambition is to avoid relegation and, secondly the team has got to obtain good results against the handful of top teams.

In the first category, Kempes and Valencia perform reasonably well against the modest opponents. But the amazing fact is that, contrary to what you'd expect after his World Cup performances, Kempes rarely scores against quality opposition. If we exclude penalties from his 1977-78 record, for example, we find that he scored only two goals against the top eight teams in the Spanish League. Four were penalties, and the other 22 were scored against modest or relegation-bound sides. What's more, he scored 23 goals at home and only five away.

Kempes' international record is also a puzzling mixture. His 21 goals in 35 matches for Argentina is a fair tally, yet, on the other hand, he's failed to score in 23 games, including the six games he played in the 1974 World Cup Finals — when he made no impact

Kempes had a frustrating time against West Brom in the U.E.F.A. Cup this season.



The goal that started the Kempes fairy tale. 'El Matador' scores his first against Poland.



Mr. and Mrs. Kempes ... married shortly before Christmas.



in a shambles of an Argentinian team. And, let's face it, Kempes looked like producing a no-goals repeat performance when he failed to score in Argentina's opening matches against France, Hungary and Italy.

Then came those incredible 12 days when Mario proved to himself and to the whole world that he can score against top-level opposition. At the age of 24, Kempes still has a long future in the game, and, if he's to retain the Number One tag that he won so rapidly in those 12 days, he's got to work hard at putting more consistency into his goalscoring.

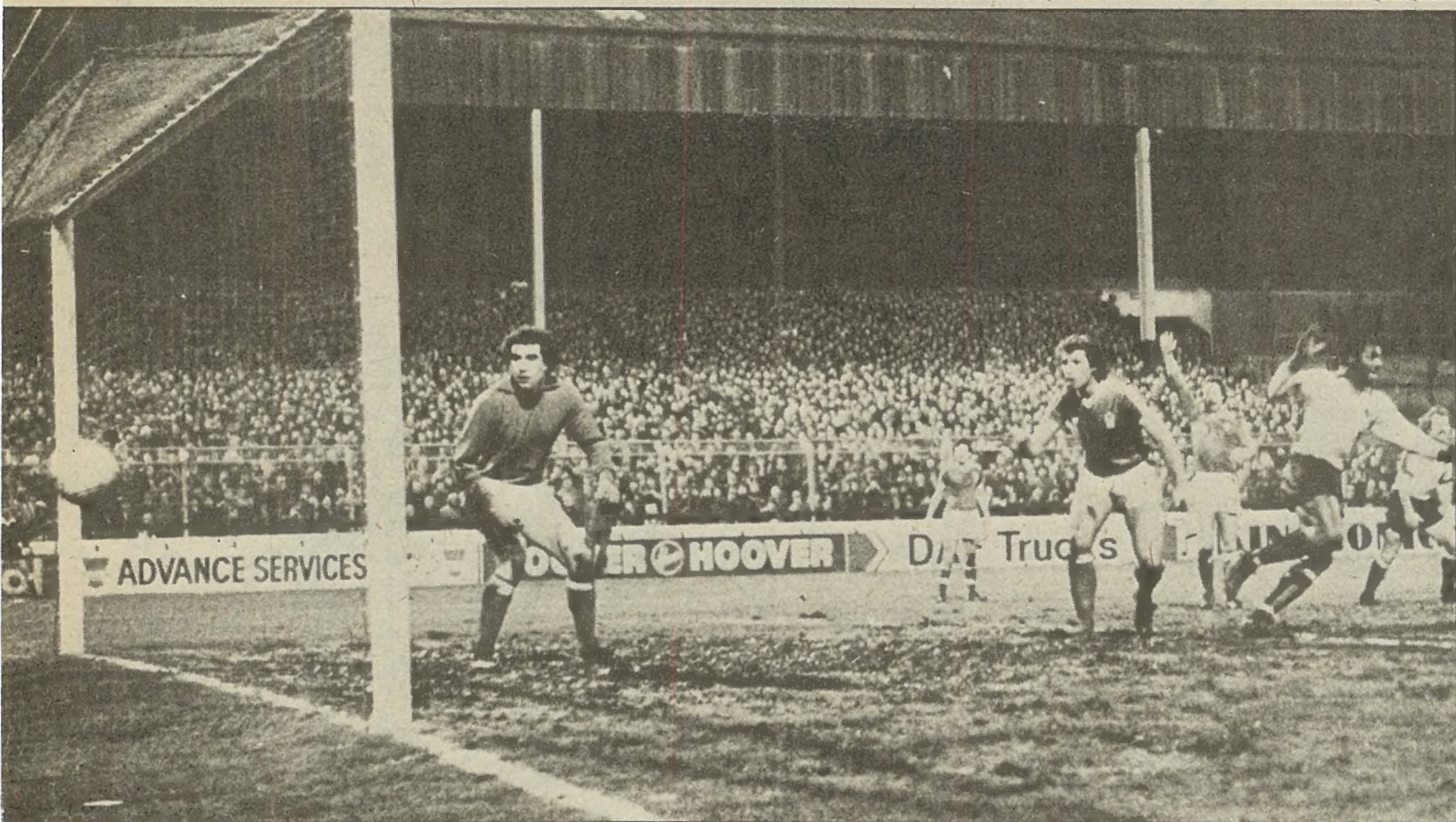
And to prove his right to a place in soccer's 'Hall of Fame', he must start scoring more of those vital goals that clinch victory in important matches. In 12 days he proved to the world that he has the ability. Now he has to fulfill that ability in domestic football.

Pot Black



ABOVE... Viv Anderson is on the mark for Forest against Spurs at White Hart Lane.
 RIGHT... West Brom's Cyrille Regis shows his shooting power v. Manchester City.
 BELOW... Roger Palmer slots in Manchester City's first goal against Bolton Wanderers.





ABOVE... Even the great Peter Shilton of Forest can't stop this Luther Blissett League Cup header for Watford.
BELOW... Crystal Palace starlet Vince Hilaire scores from the edge of the penalty-area against Orient. Ian Walsh (number 11) seems to be celebrating prematurely!



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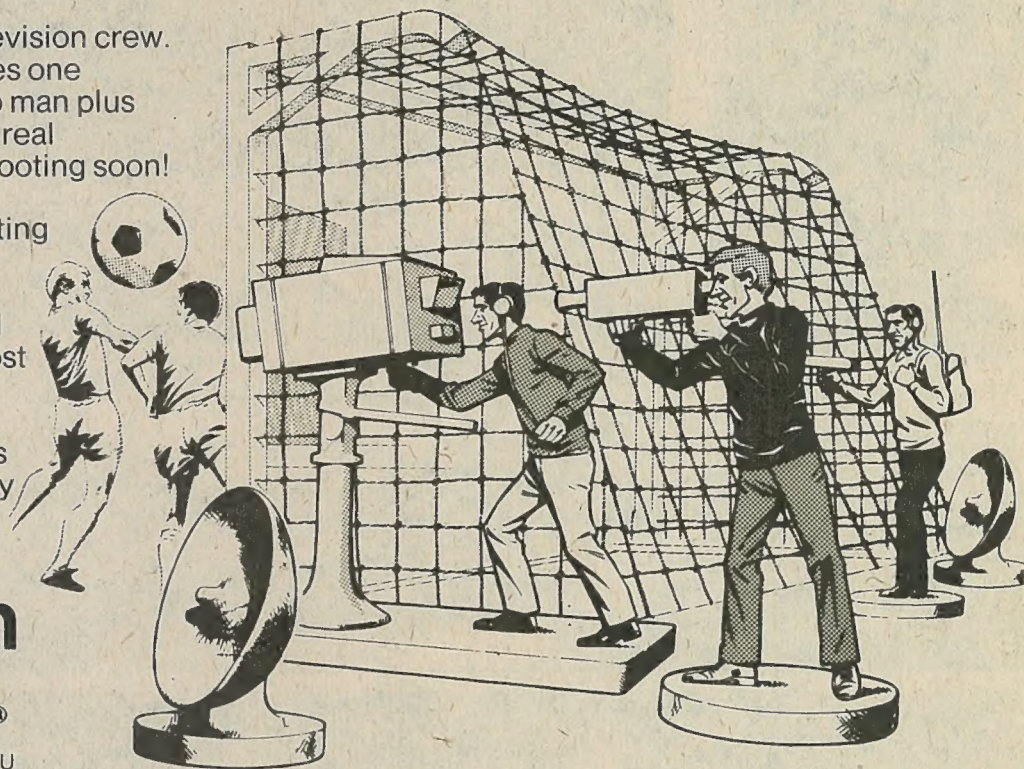
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FOOTBALLS

Simon Billinge, The Old Rectory, Crowcombe, Taunton, Somerset. Matthew Bower, 14 The Birches, South Wootton, King's Lynn, Norfolk. Ian Buchanan, 25 Borthwick St., Ruchazie, Glasgow G33. Richard Burton, 63 Grassmoor Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham. Bryan Ellis, 62 Coombe Road, Nailsea, Bristol BS19 2HH. Darren Emery, 16 The Cloisters, Humberstone, Grimsby, South Humberside. Andrew Fuller, 70 Chalcraft House, Ashton, Bristol. R. Harlock, 2 Ellenborough Close, Bracknell, Berks. Guy Hunt, Bay View, Corran Haven, Nr. St. Austell, Cornwall. David T. Mackfall, Willow Tree Farm, Low Burnham, Epworth, Doncaster. William Murray, 117 Dailly Road, Maybole, Ayrshire. Ross Niven, 29 Hawley Road, Falkirk, Stirlingshire. John Pattison, Rondon, Cow Moor Bridge, Stockton Lane, York. Michael Pickersgill, 6 Pollard St., Lofthouse, Nr. Wakefield, W. Yorks. John Power, 18 Townsend Road, Tottenham, London N15 4NT. Ian Rennie, 7 Elder Road, Killearn, By Glasgow. Simon Robertson, 29 Pittengulies Circle, Peterculter, Aberdeen. Kevin Taylor, 26 Beckwith Rd., Harrogate, North Yorkshire. Geoffrey Turner, 19 Adams Grove, Westwood Park, Leek, Staffs. Chris Walsh, Bush Tavern, Market St., Ballymoney, Co. Antrim, N. Ireland. Nigel Watter, Bridge House, Bridge St., Saffron Walden, Essex. Gary West, 16 Greyfriars Cres., Fulwood, Preston. David D. Whyte, 28 Hawley Road, Falkirk, Stirlingshire. Stephen Wyatt, 10 Bellrope Lane, Roydon, Diss, Norfolk. Howard John Byrom, Thirlston York Lane, Langho, Blackburn, Lancs.



DEREK STATHAM
(W.B.A.)

**'A tough
but exciting
tussle'**

CHANNON: Hello, Derek. I'm hoping ground conditions in March, and for our game, are going to be better than they were last month. Our "derby" against Manchester United was a farce, due to the weather, which made the match something of a lottery.

STATHAM: Agreed, Mike. What I've been most anxious about since the lay-off due to snow and ice is that we can keep going as we were before the hold-up. It's always possible a team's momentum can be interrupted.

CHANNON: West Brom were cer-

**BIG
MATCH**

CROSSTALK

**Between
WEST BROMWICH ALBION
and
MANCHESTER CITY
Saturday, March 10th, 1979**

tainly going great guns — if you can keep that up you must have an outside chance of lifting the title. But don't look for any help from Manchester City, because we'll be all out to improve on that 2-2 draw in our last meeting at Maine Road.

STATHAM: I'm anticipating an equally tough game this time, and we aren't likely to underestimate City. You have the talent in your side, and I reckon your team is just experiencing a bad spell. If one or two players are off form, the rest of the side can carry them to a certain extent — it's when three or four are below par trouble can start.

CHANNON: Well, we are changing our style and going in for a more open type of game which should suit us much better. In fact, it's a new-look Manchester City that you'll be up against. Previously, even last season when we finished fifth, we weren't playing exceptionally well but still managed to come up with some favourable results.

STATHAM: Good results are essential to us in order to keep up our challenge for the League Championship. In our favour so far is the fact we've done well home and away, though this game is at The Hawthorns doesn't make me feel this advantage will count for a lot — up to almost the end of

February, City had scored more goals when travelling than at home and conceded less.

CHANNON: I know we'll be trying for goals at your ground, and I would hate a replica of our 0-0 draw at Maine Road last season — frankly, that was a diabolical match. But I expect you to be coming at us, and we don't mind this, as teams tend to close up against us at Maine Road.

STATHAM: I understand you are trying a new formation, but whatever your tactics, I'm aware we'll have to keep a close watch on Peter Barnes and yourself. We know what you are both capable of if given half a chance. As for us, we attack wherever we play, and it seems to suit us.

CHANNON: No doubt about that, with Laurie Cunningham so dangerous when going forward, and Tony Brown a goal-machine. I believe in the positive approach, which is what City are out to achieve. You must be positive to win, and last term we were prone to adopt a negative attitude which could make us hard to beat, but which also prevented us really going places.

STATHAM: On their day, City are one of the best attacking teams in the League. And as we'll be in the



MIKE CHANNON
(Manchester City)

**'We'll be
going for
goals'**

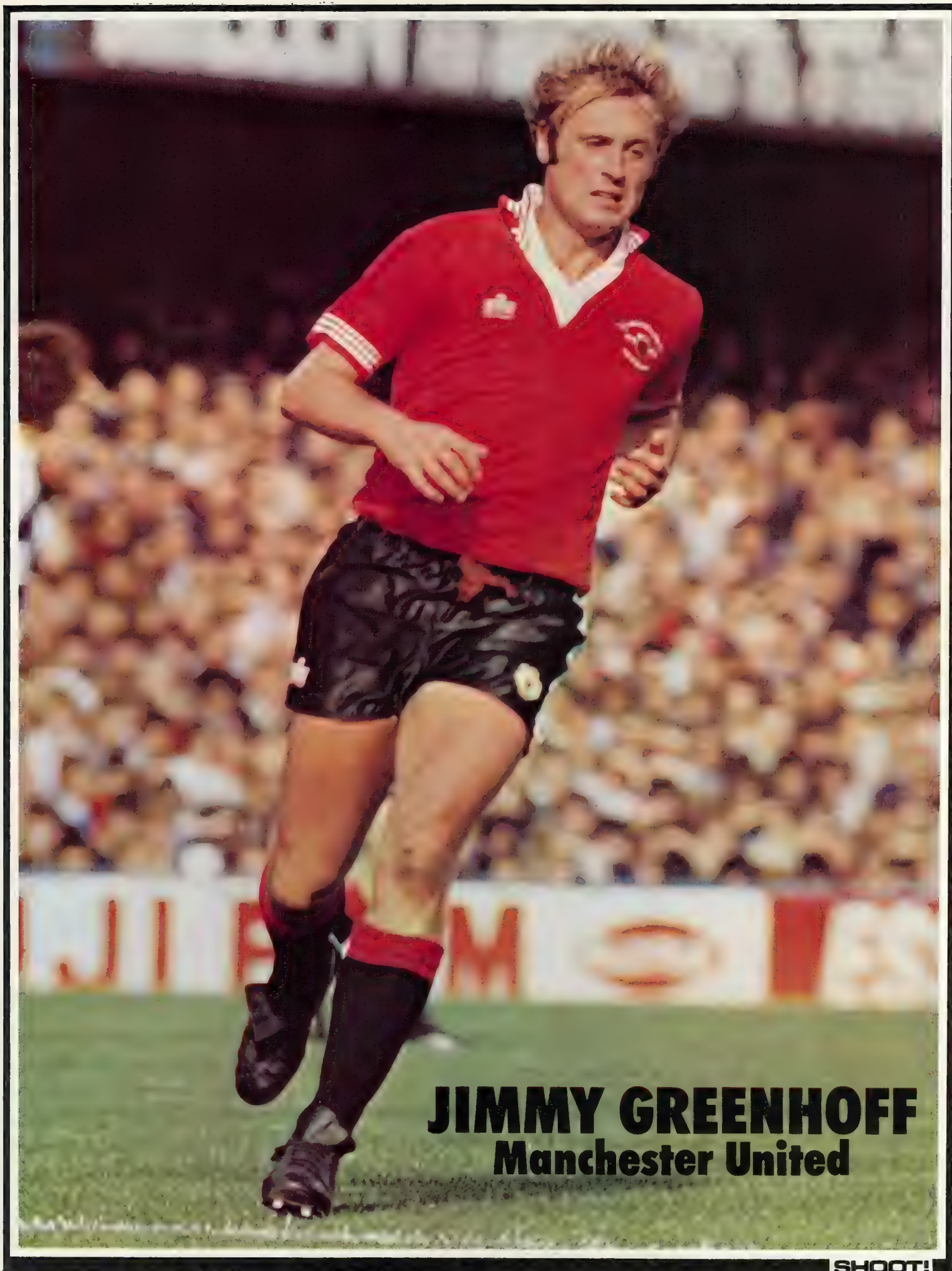
mood to collect both points, this shouldn't be a dull match to watch.

CHANNON: Assuming ground conditions are reasonable, both sides should be able to play the sort of football that has been impossible on recent pitches. When I was with Southampton, we had a good record against West Bromwich and I enjoyed meeting them.

STATHAM: Well, I won't make any predictions about the outcome of the match, which is important to both of us. But here's hoping for the right result for West Bromwich.



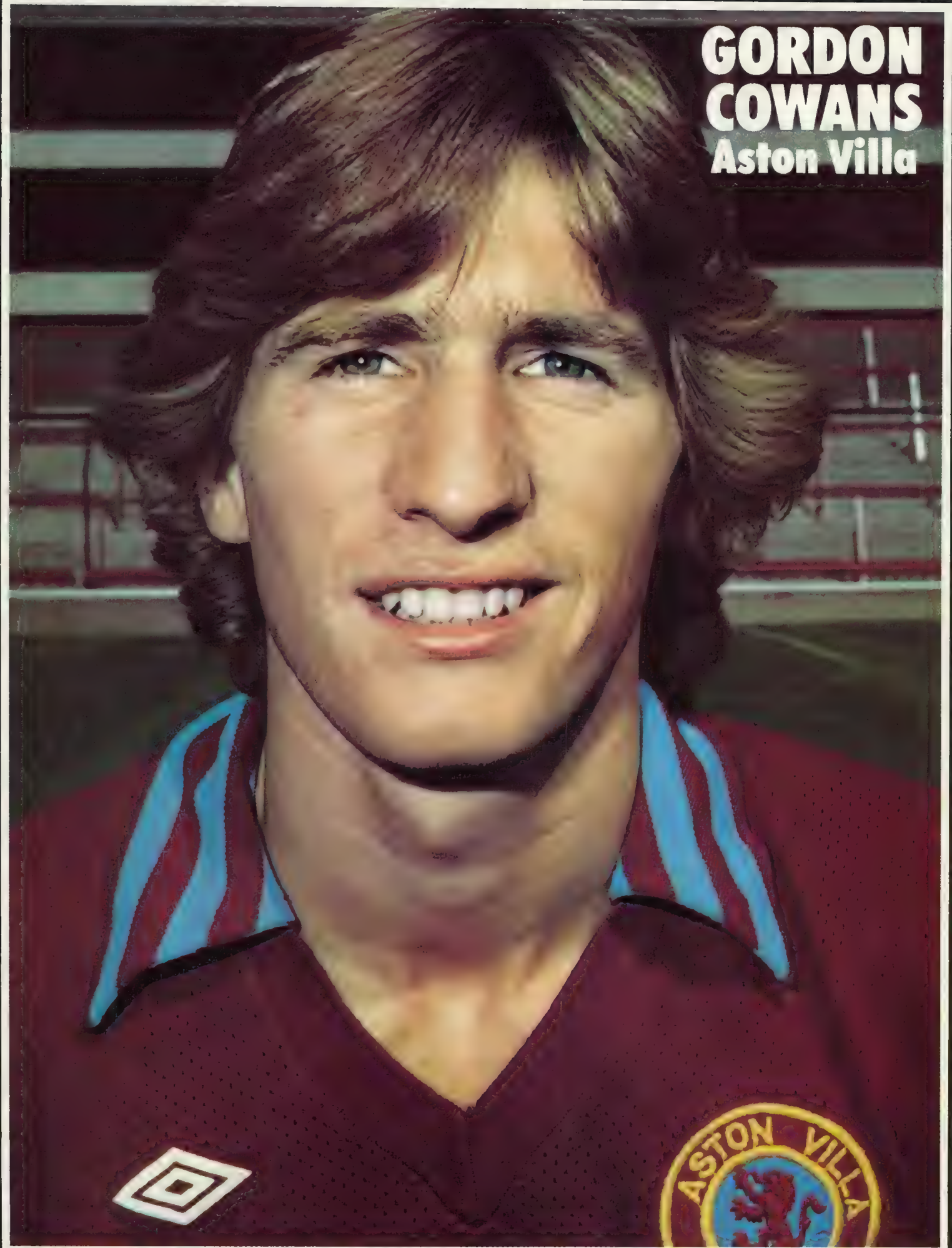
City's Brian Kidd (on ground) narrowly misses in the 2-2 draw v. West Brom at Maine Road this season.



JIMMY GREENHOFF
Manchester United

SHOOT!

**GORDON
COWANS**
Aston Villa



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YOU ARE THE REF

Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS

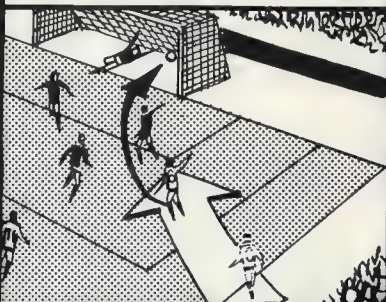


A player uses foul and abusive language to the referee who promptly sends him off the field. From the free-kick the ball goes directly into the goal, should you award (a) a goal or (b) a goal-kick?

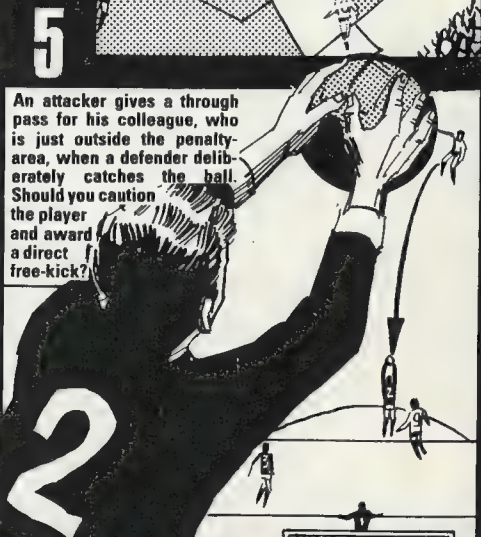
2 The pitch markings are not clear when both teams go off at half-time. Have you the power to ask the groundsmen to remark the field?



3 A player went off the field with the referee's permission through injury, but returns without a signal and goes on to score. Should you (a) award a goal, (b) a caution and a goal-kick or (c) a caution and an indirect free-kick?



4 Taking a goal-kick, a keeper follows the ball outside the area, taps it back, and then clears. Should you award an indirect free-kick?



An attacker gives a through pass for his colleague, who is just outside the penalty-area, when a defender deliberately catches the ball. Should you caution the player and award a direct free-kick?

ANSWERS

1. A goal-kick (b). 2. Yes. You will usually find at most Football League grounds the groundsmen are awaiting the referee at the end of the tunnel. In a recent match between Millwall and Luton at The Den, the touch-lines could not be seen through mud. Immediately the groundsmen cleared them during the interval. Not many appreciate the invaluable work these people do to ensure the match is played. 3. A caution and a goal-kick (b). 4. Yes. 5. Yes. In my Millwall and Luton match, a similar thing happened with a Millwall attack. It gave me no option but to caution Donaghy, of Luton, who accepted the decision with no question.

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Missed penalties

What is the greatest number of penalties missed by one side in a single game?

ANDY MIDGLEY,
PETERBOROUGH

As far as the Football League is concerned, Andy, it's three. Manchester City missed all three awarded to them in a First Division game against Newcastle on 27th January, 1912. Earlier, on 13th February, 1909, Burnley missed three out of four in a Second Division game against Grimsby.

Charlton v. Villa

I have a very old programme for a Fifth Round F.A. Cup-tie between Charlton and Aston Villa on 12th February, 1938, and would like to know what happened?

STEVE ELLIOTT,
BROADSTAIRS

For a start, Steve, a club-record attendance of 75,031 packed The Valley that pre-war afternoon. But there was no immediate decisive result. That game ended 1-1, the replay at Villa Park 2-2 — and it took a third meeting at neutral Highbury to sort it out 4-1 in Villa's favour.

Fastest hat-trick

Who's scored the fastest hat-trick in the Football or Scottish League?

KEVIN CAMERON,
ROSS-SHIRE

Almost a dozen have had their three goals in three minutes flat, Kevin — but the fastest I can find is the two-and-a-half-minute threesome by Jimmy Scarth for Gillingham v. Orient in a Division Three (South) game on 1st November, 1952.

And, in full international football, it will be pretty good going if anyone ever beats the three-and-a-half-minute hat-trick by Tottenham's Willie Hall for England v. Ireland at Old Trafford on 16th November, 1938.

What's more, Hall went on to get five in England's 7-0 win.

Youngest

Who's the youngest player to score in a Football League game?

ROBERT LEACH,
AUSTRALIA

Ronnie Dix holds that record, Robert. He was 15 years and 180 days old when he scored for Bristol Rovers v. Norwich in a Third Division (South) match on 3rd March, 1928.

Dix later played for Blackburn, Villa, and Derby in the First Division — and made his full England debut just before World War Two broke out.

Five in debut

Which player has scored the most goals on his Football League debut?

ANDREW LEOPOLD,
LEATHERHEAD

Chelsea's George Hilsdon — who later gained eight England caps — takes that one, Andrew.

He scored five for the club against Glossop, in Division Two, on 1st September, 1906.

In Scotland, the record for a League debutant is three better at eight — by John Dyet, for King's Park v. Forfar, in a Division Two game on 2nd January, 1930.

Final hat-trick

Has anyone ever scored a hat-trick in an F.A. Cup Final?

JOHN CAWLEY,
CO. TYRONE

Yes, John, three Final strikers have struck that hard.

The last was Stan Mortensen in Blackpool's dramatic 4-3 "injury-time" victory over Bolton in 1953 — the match in which Matthews got his Cup-winners' medal at last.

Some records credit one of the three as an "own-goal to Hassall" — but the deflection was really limited enough not to deprive "Morty" of his glory.

The other two three-goal men were long before — Townley in Blackburn's 6-1 defeat of Sheffield Wednesday in 1890, and Logan in Notts County's 4-1 victory over Bolton in 1894.

SHORT PASSES

North Korea beat Italy 1-0 on Middlesbrough's ground in the 1966 World Cup.

(STEPHEN ASKINS, Redcar)

Macclesfield Town beat Telford United 2-0 at Wembley in the first F.A. Trophy Final (1969-70).

(MARK COTTERILL, Congleton)

Manchester City were League Champions in 1936-37 — and relegated the following season.

(GARETH PRYCE, Beeston)

In the Scottish Cup Second Round in 1972-73, Celtic beat Stranraer 7-3 on aggregate (2-1 away, and 5-2 at home).

(ROBERT HALLIDAY, Stranraer)

Bobby Gould has played League football for Coventry, Arsenal, Wolves, West Bromwich, Bristol City, West Ham, Wolves (again), Bristol Rovers, and Hereford.

(ALEX GRIFFITHS, Sale)

Paul Reaney played 557 League games (six goals), and Allan Clarke 273 League games (110 goals), for Leeds.

(BILL BLANCHARD, U.S.A.)

PHIL Parkes, the most expensive goalkeeper in the world since his £565,000 transfer from Queens Park Rangers to West Ham United, was bought as a "present" for the Upton Park fans.

At least that's what Hammers' manager John Lyall contends, calmly ignoring the astonished reactions throughout the game at his most devastating move in the inflated transfer market.

Lyall said: "We want to boost our chances of promotion back to the First Division, so we've bought a first-class goalkeeper of international standing. But we also wanted to reward our supporters for their loyalty while we are in the Second Division. This is a vote of thanks to the fans."

Behind all the back-slapping and muscle-bound handshakes lies the harsh reality that Mervyn Day, voted Young Player of the Year not so long ago and considered by

then manager Ron Greenwood as: "A guarantee we have a goalkeeper for the next ten years," has suffered an alarming form-slump and perhaps needs a move to recharge his batteries . . . and confidence.

Parkes, capped by Sir Alf Ramsey against Portugal in 1974 — Ramsey's last game as England boss — is a 'keeper of proven pedigree and is currently rated alongside Manchester City's Joe Corrigan as joint number three behind Liverpool's Ray Clemence and Nottingham Forest's Peter Shilton.

And Parkes has no illusions about the wisdom of his decision to end a happy nine-year association with Rangers for a move across to East London.

"I expect my stay in the Second Division to be only as long as the number of games West Ham play between now and the end of this

season because I believe we have the squad necessary to win promotion. We could even pip the others for the Championship," he says.

"I gave the move a lot of thought, but I know I've made the right decision. I don't have the problems of moving house and I stay settled with the friends I've made since moving down from the Midlands.

West Ham is a First Division club playing in the Second. They would not spend such a sum on a player if they did not intend moving straight back to the top.

"Mind you, the amount is no concern of mine. It will not worry me. I was bought as West Ham's first team goalkeeper and I am determined to maintain that position. That is my only concern."

Parkes, 28, was born in Sedgely and joined Walsall from school. He made 52 League appearances for

the club before joining Rangers for £15,000 in May, 1970.

Standing 6' 2½" in his socks and weighing nearly 14 stones, Parkes is a powerful, commanding goalkeeper who, according to former West Ham 'keeper Ernie Gregory: "Reminds me of the old-fashioned type of goalkeeper, big, tall and strong, a positive player with lots of confidence."

With Rangers, Parkes knew the agony of relegation and the ecstasy of promotion; came within a point of a League Championship medal under Dave Sexton in 1976.

Now, after 344 League games for the Loftus Road club, he begins a new chapter in a career that has also been fraught with worry during a spell out of the game with a leg injury.

He added: "I will miss Rangers and everybody connected with the club. I was happy there and can only wish them my genuine best wishes in their fight to stay up."

Right now, the West Ham fans are extending their best wishes to Parkes — and their thanks to their generous board of directors for a New Year gift costing more than half a million pounds.

PHIL PARKES ~ the £565,000 'present' to West Ham fans



'Star treatment for injured players'

I'VE never known a season when so many of the country's leading players have been hit by injuries. There have been enough casualties to form a couple of teams.

At Derby most of the senior players have been sidelined at some time or other. And even ex-team-mate Charlie George has been fighting to regain fitness at Southampton, following a similar injury to the one that has knocked me out for so long — ligaments.

As you know I had additional problems, a crushed cartilage that needed an operation.

After spending a few days in hospital, I spent five weeks or so at the Etwall Rehabilitation Centre just outside Derby, under the care of physiotherapist Madelaine Evans. I owe Madelaine and my surgeon Mr. Cargill so much. I couldn't have received better treatment.

But I wasn't treated as a special case. In fact, I was the only footballer at Etwall.

People there were from all walks of life and some were suffering from horrific injuries caused by accidents at work, or car crashes.

There were a few sorrowful sights, but thanks to Madelaine and her colleagues most managed to remain cheerful.

Inactivity

My therapy included working lathes with my injured leg, to strengthen muscles weakened by the operation and weeks of inactivity. It was so weak, I lost two inches from my thigh.

The afternoons were spent in the swimming pool. Apparently there's no finer exercise. Every part of your body is used.

The time I spent at Etwall gave me ample opportunity to take a close look at the injury problems suffered by footballers — and the reasons why so many have been struck down this season.

I suppose the weather has contributed to some of them. Players falling on rock hard surfaces, or becoming the victims of mistimed tackles caused by treacherous surfaces.

Everton manager Gordon Lee described Southampton's Dell as a "death trap" after his side had lost 3-0 on a suspect pitch on February 17th.

I understand four or five of his players were hurt on an afternoon when only five League matches were played.

The main cause of injuries these days, especially ligaments, shouldn't be blamed on the weather, though. They are caused by the pace and pressures of the modern game.

Matches are played at a punishing rate. Players are much more athletic and highly trained than ever before and are often required to push their



Aston Villa's Gordon Cowans is wheeled off after breaking a bone in his foot v. Forest.

bodies through 60, or more, tough games a season.

Eventually the stress and strain proves too much and something gives... usually a ligament, or a groin muscle.

Ligaments are best described as elastic bands. They are stretched and stretched until they wear out and then break completely.

I know of a few players in the game today, who can hardly walk

after a game because their injuries are so bad.

When they do eventually retire, arthritis can set in and reduce them to cripples.

Football is not all glamour and glitter. Ask West Ham skipper Billy Bonds, or Derby skipper Roy McFarland who has struggled to string half-a-dozen games together after being injured playing for England a few years ago.

Billy Bonds suffered a severe groin strain in 1974-75, but because of West Ham's involvement in the F.A. Cup refused to rest.

His courage and influence helped The Hammers reach the Final. Billy played against Fulham at Wembley in 1975 yet I know every step was agony.

He's okay now, thank goodness, back to his brilliant best, but there are a few players who never recover from injuries of that sort.

Some clubs tend to force players back too soon after a bad knock. This can make an injury worse, eventually causing the player to quit the game prematurely.

One First Division manager I know was discussing a player recovering from injury with his physiotherapist a few days before a vital League match.

"He can't play on Saturday, boss," said the physio. "Why not?" replied the manager. "If he's able to walk to his car — he's fit to play."

my soccer scene

GORDON HILL

I must stress such cases as that are an exception rather than the rule.

Take my own situation. Derby have ensured I don't rush things. I am gradually easing myself back even if it takes the rest of the season.

When Colin Todd was at the Baseball Ground he had a cartilage out during the summer, and the club made certain he was completely fit before restoring him to first team action.

Toddie was out for eight or nine weeks even though Derby needed him. Now, at Everton, he's stronger and fitter than ever.

Physiotherapists are vital members of a club. Experts, such as Derby's Gordon Guthrie, are as essential as any player.

Another vital factor these days is a good first team squad of 14-15 good-class players.

Many clubs are hit harder by injuries to key men because their reserve strength is inadequate.

Liverpool are perhaps the best example of the squad system. They've suffered injuries to star players like every club, yet still managed to maintain their fantastic record of success for a decade or more.

This season skipper Emlyn Hughes and Phil Thompson have been missing, yet The Reds are top of the League.

True, they have the resources to buy replacements if necessary and pay players enough to keep them reasonably happy in the reserves... and what reserves.

Men such as Dave Johnson, Davie Fairclough and 'keeper Steve Ogriovic would be regular first team members with any other club.

Apart from Derby, Aston Villa have probably been the worst hit by

Our star-writer recovering in hospital after his recent operation.



injuries this term. Well, in the First Division anyway. Andy Gray is the most notable absentee. He was forced to have a cartilage operation when he was injured in training... after recovering from torn knee ligaments.

Alex Cropley has only just returned to first team action after being out for almost a year with a broken leg.

Gary Shelton, Frank Carrodus, Gordon Smith, before his transfer to Bolton, Gordon Cowans and John Wark have also been missing at one time or another.

Million footballer Trevor Sturges missed the early part of the season for Birmingham because of a knee injury.

It was that caused by the after effects of his summer in the States? I doubt it. It was pure coincidence, although some critics are blaming injuries on the summer.



West Ham skipper Billy Bonds was in agony during the 1975 F.A. Cup Final.

his American stint with Detroit Express.

Arsenal's own superstar Malcolm Macdonald has been out for most of the season and may go on loan to a Swedish First Division club in order to help his complete recovery.

A great idea by Arsenal. This will help Malcolm ease himself back at his own pace, yet retain a competitive edge to his game.

At Chelsea, Ray Wilkins was out for six weeks or so with ligament trouble in a knee. Micky Droy had a blood disorder. Gary Locke has struggled to get fit. And Scottish international Davie Hay has been plagued with trouble.

Ipswich stars Kevin Beattie, Allan Hunter, David Geddis and F.A. Cup winner Roger Osborne, all injured at times this season, have left manager Bobby Robson with problems.

At Manchester United internationals Joe Jordan and Stuart Pearson have been victims of injury. Even new signing Micky Thomas suffered a poisoned foot shortly after his move from Wrexham.

And Manchester City's Kenny Clements has a broken leg... and over at Bolton, Peter Reid may be out for the rest of the season.

A gloomy state of affairs, isn't it? One club without too many casualties this term, though, are Leeds United.

They will be Derby's opponents at the Baseball Ground this Saturday (March 10th), unless they are still involved in the F.A. Cup.

I made my second comeback of the season at Leeds on October 28th and could do nothing right as Derby lost 4-0. Now that was a painful experience!

Cheers...

Richard Clegg

GOAL~LINES

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This week's Star Letter comes from Richard Clegg of Filey in Yorkshire who wins our Special Prize of £3. He writes:

BOBBY WAS BEST

I READ in your February 17th issue that Kevin Keegan is "the best footballer England have had since Tom Finney."

No disrespect to Kevin at all, but what about Bobby Charlton? Over 100 caps and 49 goals, a record unlikely to be broken.

Bobby was always a great player, dominating the midfield and his long-range shooting was superb. He was so exciting, too. Remember that thunderbolt against Mexico in the 1966 World Cup?

He has never been replaced and that is why England haven't progressed in major competitions during the Seventies.

Kevin is turning it on for England now, I agree, but he isn't in Bobby's class.



• They are essentially different types of players, but equally effective. Kevin doesn't score from 35 yards, but Bobby (above, dark shirt) didn't have K.K.'s speed. England seem to be relying on Kevin's inspiration now just as they did with Bobby a decade or so ago.

Distorted Danny

HAVING read Danny McGrain's anti-England article in SOCCER MONTHLY I had to write to you. I have no family English connections, hence no bias. I couldn't believe a professional footballer would think like that.

I can't see why SHOOT gives Danny a regular column. Any person with such a distorted view should have his rubbish censored!

He has the cheek to go on about the Scots after their shameful World Cup! Having watched a Celtic/Rangers Final a few years back, all I can say is: give me Match of the Day any time.

JOE HUSSEY,
CO. KERRY.

• If Danny chooses to be fiercely anti-England, that's his right... just as everyone has the right to reply. It's the old, old Scotland/England rivalry, which, it seems, only really exists in Scotland judging from our mailbag. I receive hardly any anti-Scotland letters from England.

'Female' Ref

I KNOW some people reckon referees are a lot of old women, but this misprint from the Portsmouth News seems to prove it!

W. DRACKETT,
HAVANT.

Saints: Gennoe; Golac, Nicholl, Waldron, Peach, Williams, Ball, Holmes, Curran (Sealy); Boyer, Heberd.

Derby: McKellar; Langan, McFarland, Wicks, Buckley, Flook, Clark, Taylor, Goss, Duncan (Moreland).

Referee: Mrs. Brian Daniels, Brentwood, Essex
Attendance: 21,109

• Do readers have any more amusing misprints?

Crazy Transfer

SO Trevor Francis is going to be £50,000 better off following his transfer to Forest. This, because he didn't ask for a transfer. If my memory serves me correctly, Francis was fined by Birmingham on two or three occasions for newspaper outbursts about wanting to get away. From this I assume asking for a transfer in the papers isn't really asking for a transfer. Just one more crazy chapter in the whole crazy transfer...

STEPHEN CUTLER,
LONDON.

• I remember Sir Alf Ramsey, when he was in charge of Blues, saying: "Trevor's had his say, so has his wife — now I'm waiting to hear what his dog has to say!"

Insult

I CAN see the day, not too far away, when a player will consider it an insult to be valued at "only" £300,000.

HAZEL MARSH,
WEST GREEN.

• But not an insult to pick up five per cent of the fee...

Pen-Pal

I'M a 17-year-old Dutch boy who supports Manchester United and I'd like to write to an Old Trafford terrace regular.

ROB FREESTONE,
LANDMANSWEG 206,
7557 XL HENGEL (O),
HOLLAND.



Bayern Munich striker Gerd Müller (left), who announced his end-of-the-season retirement recently, has, in fact, now ended his association with the West German club. After a row with coach Csernai Der Bomber asked for his contract to be terminated and it was. American clubs will be interested in this development.

DIRCEU RETURNING

Dirceu, Brazil's best player in the 1978 World Cup Finals, will soon be leaving America, the Mexican club he joined last year. He said: "I am the most expensive player in Mexico and people expect too much from me. During a game I am often spat upon and abused. I can't continue playing here."

Gremio, of Porto Alegre, have begun negotiations with America to sign him.

GOAL SPARKS RIOT

In Spain, Huelva's home match against Real Sociedad had to be abandoned ten minutes before the end following serious crowd disturbances. The trouble started when the score was 1-1 and a lob from visiting striker Sarrutegui appeared to cross the line before the Huelva goalkeeper scooped the ball clear.

The referee waved play on, but after a few moments went to talk to a linesman, then changed his mind and awarded a goal!

The officials were promptly bombarded with objects from the crowd; the visitors' coach was smashed; and players and officials had to barricade themselves in the dressing-rooms for three hours while police tried to clear the angry crowds.

WORLDWIDE

COMPILED BY CHRIS DAVIES

NEESKENS LEAVING?

Johan Neeskens' departure from Barcelona at the end of the season seems inevitable. The 27-year-old Dutch midfielder player is reported to have asked the club for a new three-year contract guaranteeing him £250,000 a year, plus salary and bonuses.

Although no one in Barcelona has the slightest criticism of Johan's service to the club, the directors feel that he must be replaced in order not to make such serious demands on the club's finances.

Nine clubs have already shown interest in signing Neeskens.

FC Cologne have sold the advertising space on their players' shirts to a Japanese firm for £250,000 a year.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

The Danish F.A., have increased the salary of national manager KURT NIELSEN to £4,450 — giving rise to the question: "What was it last year?" ... Bayern Munich have signed 18-year-old centre-forward WERNER STEIN-KIRCHNER, who has already scored more than 500 goals in junior and amateur football ... Bulgaria's Footballer of the Year is Lokomotiv Sofia goalkeeper ROMAN GORANOV ... GEORG SCHWARZENBECK has signed a new contract with Bayern Munich that will bring him around £75,000 a year ... French "Footballer of the Year" is JEAN PETIT of Champions AS Monaco ... HARRY SCHMIDT, a former West German youth international goalkeeper, turned out at centre-forward for his new club VfR Rudesheim — and scored ten goals in the game ... SAVEIRO GARONZI, chairman of First Division club Verona, has been suspended for 18 months by the Italian authorities for allegedly insulting the referee after a recent game ... NELINHO, of Brazil, who scored with that marvellous 'banana'-shot goal against Italy in Argentina, has agreed to have an operation on a sciatic nerve in his back ... HEINZ FLOHE, 1.F.C. Cologne's West German midfielder, felt the treatment he was getting from the club's specialist wasn't good enough, so he wanted a second opinion. Coach HENNES WEISWEILER said 'no' until the club chairman gave the go-ahead.

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EXPERIMENTAL GAME A FLOP

An experimental match incorporating innovations in soccer rules was recently promoted by TV Bandeirantes in São Paulo. The alterations to the rules were these:

- (1) offside only in the penalty-areas
- (2) a penalty kick awarded after five fouls committed
- (3) playing time 30 minutes each way, the clock being stopped when the ball was not in play
- (4) kick-ins instead of throw-ins
- (5) two referees each taking one half of the pitch.

The two sides selected included many past and present famous players — for example the Whites had: goalkeeper Felix, Djalmá

Santos, Carlos Alberto, Dudu, Eneas and Pedro Rocha. The Red team had Marinho Perez, Clodoaldo, Vlademir, Juari, Cesar, Romeu, Moisés and Ailton Lira.

The match result was a 5-5 draw, but it was evident that the players were totally unaccustomed to the new rules. Only two penalties, for the five-foul rule were awarded, one to each side.

Strangely enough neither side tried playing the long ball up to their forwards. An interesting point was one of the goals scored by the Reds. Ailton Lira dribbled past five opponents before scoring — this apparent easy goal was caused by the fact that the Whites had a total of four fouls against them already, consequently no opponent dared risk a tackle or even a professional foul to stop him scoring, as this would, automatically, have given away a penalty kick under the five-foul rule.

The crowd also participated, by yelling out not to foul, when "their" team was on four fouls. The referees, however, were of the opinion that there was less violent play and the football was much less defensive.

However, because of the lack of adaptation by the players, one thing was evident: any official changes in the rules will not be easily or rapidly effected.

NEWS FLASHES

With AC Torino out of the Championship race this season their attendances so far have fallen to an average of 25,000 a game — and that includes more than 10,000 season ticket holders.

Playing football is proving more popular in Norway, with 800 new teams registering with their F.A. in 1978.

After six weeks without kicking a League ball, Feyenoord took their squad off to Tenerife in the Canary Islands and as Czech manager coach Vaclav Jezek said: "We saw grass!" More than that, they won and beat a local amateur

to Spurs. **Cidman** has written by Football-amas Schengeliya of some time of Tbilisi, Russia's Even £1 m. Year. Oleg Blokhin was Francis mis Georgi Jarzew (Spartak), the campaign ard.

of injury. Third Division game between Was League-leaders Badalona had effect. abandoned at half-time because a mob of irate fans wouldn't let the referee out of his dressing-room. The ref's "sin" was to disallow a goal scored by the home team.

For the first time there will be home- and away-legs in the Belgian Cup Quarter-Finals and the Semis, but just one match for the actual Final.

In a poll conducted by the Belgrade evening newspaper *Vecerne Novosti* Yugoslavia's Footballer of the Year is Vahid Halilhodzic of Velez Mostar. He played as an over-age player in the Under-21 team that eliminated England in the Semi-Finals of last year's European Championship.

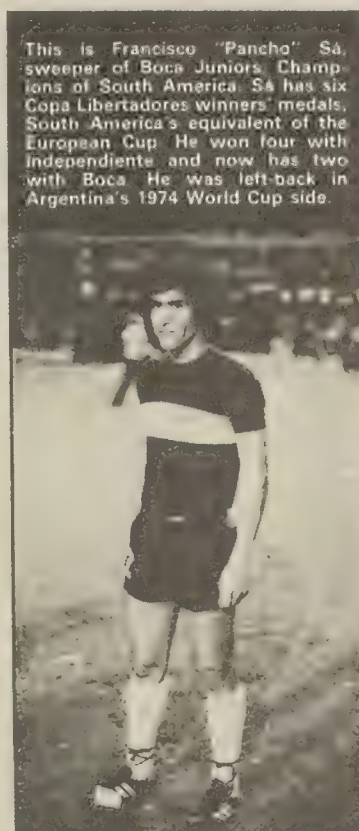
Despite a distinct improvement in the fortunes of Finland's national team their First Division still fails to attract fans. Last season, 1978, their F.A. says the average crowd at Division One games was only 1,411.

Mexico's national team manager José Antonio Roca was sacked after their disastrous World Cup display, and his successor has only just been named. He's José Moncebaez, who has recently been in charge of the Mexico youth team and has previously been club manager with Toluca, Puebla, América and Veracruz.

The Bogota newspaper *El Espectador* recently polled readers about the 1986 World Cup, due to be staged in Colombia, and produced the remarkable figures that 52.6 per cent of those asked were against staging the World Cup there. The project is apparently thought too costly while the country needs to be modernised in so many ways, for much of it is undeveloped.



Two of West Germany's top soccer wives... Anneliese Schoen (left), wife of the great Helmut, who retired last summer, and Elisabeth Derwall, wife of the current national manager Jupp.



This is Francisco "Pancho" Sá, sweeper of Boca Juniors, Champions of South America. Sá has six Copa Libertadores winners' medals, South America's equivalent of the European Cup. He won four with Independiente and now has two with Boca. He was left-back in Argentina's 1974 World Cup side.

Former Bayern Munich boss Dettmar Cramer, who led them to success in the European Cup, is currently in Saudi Arabia with a club in Jeddah. He has three foreign 'stars' Theo Bucker, a German from MSV Duisberg, Thomas Sjöberg, Sweden's World Cup centre forward and Tunisia's Nejib Ghommidh, but can only boast fifth place in the ten team League, which is not exactly what he is being paid £60,000 a month for, and which suggests he could be looking for a job in Europe again next season.

PLAYER CLEARED

René Múcher, of Belgian club Beerschot, has been the victim of a poison pen letter crank. For more than a year, someone has been sending obscene letters to various people, signing them 'René Múcher'.

René was so fed up that he complained to the police and, to prove to everyone the letters weren't from him, had several handwriting tests to clear his name.

He said: "It's very frustrating. I hope the people who receive these letters understand. There's nothing I can do. I just hope the police find this maniac soon."

ONLY FIT ENOUGH TO COLLECT HIS WAGES!

You've heard of the expression "money for old rope"? Well, there's a goalkeeper in Spain who's been taking the money and not even providing the old rope! He's a character called Mariano Tirapu, who was sacked by Atlético Madrid last year after persistently pretending to be injured and not even turning up for training.

He signed for Burgos last summer, and now the club is applying to have his contract rescinded as the player (if you can call him that) is back to his old tricks.

Every time he's called on to produce some action he claims to have an aching shoulder, arm, leg or anything that comes to mind.

One thing that isn't aching is his wallet, because he's always fit enough to pick up his pay cheque...

RIVELINO ALMOST THERE...

Reports from Brazil say it is now almost certain that Rivelino will be joining the Cosmos. A radio station in Rio managed to phone Rivelino in Saudi Arabia (via London as there is no South America-Saudi Arabia link!) and the former Brazil star said: "Although I'm happy in the Middle-East, I'd like to go to the Cosmos."

If he does join the Cosmos, he'll link up with Brazilian playboy Francisco Marinho, who cost the American club £150,000, plus the receipts from two friendlies against his former club Fluminense.

Marinho said recently: "Cosmos will have the greatest star of international football. I shall conquer New York. Soccer there is a show and that's what I like. After all, I'm an artiste. And don't forget it was Pelé who came to sign me."

WORLD WIDE COMPETITION WINNERS

Malcolm Davey, Hampton; Ian Diment, Camberley; Iain Fordyce, Livingston; Gavin Harrison, Bishops Cleeve; Andrew Hart, Duddington; Adam Newton, Harpenden; Duncan Potter, Ringwood; Peter Robson, Poole; Richard Rogers, Duntstable; Alan Turner, Nottingham. Each receive a copy of the World Cup '78 book, answers to the questions: 1 — Mario Kempes; 2 — Joe Jordan; 3 — Rob Rensenbrink.

THE FRANCIS DEBATE

'LET FRANCIS PLAY IN AMERICA'

Says Arsenal's LIAM BRADY

WHEN Britain is trying to achieve economic stability, it seems ridiculous that a transfer fee of one million pounds should be paid out for a player. But having said that, I wish the player concerned, Trevor Francis, all the luck in the world. The former Birmingham City striker has all the skills necessary for success. In past years, he has been with a club who have not managed to win any of the major trophies, and can't be blamed for joining one which is actively concerned in League and Cup competitions.

About controversy surrounding the fact that Trevor has won permission to play summer football in the United States, it is difficult for me to judge whether or not this is a good thing, because I've never experienced soccer over there. But on the face of it, I can't see any harm in spending the close season in America. There doesn't appear to be a lot of stress playing in that class of football, and in the sunshine.

Though there must be pressure on any player who breaks the price barrier of £1m, the publicity surrounding the move, the money paid out, all help to put the player in a position in which he is keenly conscious of what is expected of him. In the case of a £400,000 price tag, I don't believe that a player transferred for that figure today feels the earth has been paid for him. That sum is becoming more commonplace every day. There is no need for a player to feel under pressure in these circumstances.

Obtaining Freedom of Contract is one way in which players have moved in an attempt to bring about a change in the transfer system. However, there can be a snag in a player holding a four-year contract — he may be unhappy at a club in the middle of it, say two years, then someone is liable to step in and buy him.

Summing-up, a £1m transfer fee seems unreal even in these times of inflation, but at the moment, we are stuck with it.



Trevor (left) with wife Helen and new boss Brian Clough

'FOREST WILL GET THEIR MONEY BACK'

Says Bristol City's JOE ROYLE

IT'S the law of supply and demand that creates the £1m transfer, and the actual price paid for a player should not necessarily be a measure of his ability. For example, it shouldn't follow that a man who costs a club £1m is ten times better than someone who has been transferred for £100,000.

In the case of Trevor Francis, however, I think it best to take a positive outlook, and consider the good things that have come out of his transfer. First, both clubs concerned with his move are happy. Birmingham have cleared off their overdraft, and Nottingham Forest have secured the star striker they wanted. Second, the money is kept in the game, and third, Trevor is satisfied.

Of course, the transfer fee itself is a manufactured one, and I don't know just how it is decided upon by the managers. Certainly, the player himself has nothing to do with it. But I would say that Forest will get their money back if they can win a couple of trophies during the next three seasons, and at the end of that time they can still expect to have Francis on their books.

And on the subject of how the amount of a transfer fee is decided, it is worth noting that a fee of £750,000 has been mentioned in connection with England B striker Mike Flanagan, a striker who is not even in the First Division!

One unusual factor in the transfer of Trevor Francis lies in the fact that none of the accepted big-money clubs, such as Everton, Liverpool, the two Manchester



clubs, or Arsenal, were involved. The two clubs most interested in the player were Coventry and Nottingham Forest.

Through the years, transfer fees have rocketed with inflation, and fees which caused a sensation in the Sixties wouldn't flutter an eyelash today. Sadly, the sum of money involved doesn't always guarantee the man concerned will be a success with his new club. Take Derek Hales for instance. He hardly hit it off at Derby.

One factor in the deal is guaranteed. The crowds will flock to see the first £1m man. In Trevor Francis, Nottingham Forest have bought a player who is a credit to the game, and a nice fellow as well. As I said before, his move should benefit all concerned.



CONTINUES...

'ABOLISH THE TRANSFER SYSTEM'

Says Ipswich's CLIVE WOODS



ONE obvious effect the £1m transfer of Trevor Francis could have is to boost an already inflationary transfer market. A reserve team player, for instance, who would have been worth £50,000 before the Birmingham-Forest deal could find his value boosted to £200,000. But in spite of this, I can't see the £1m transfer being repeated, or a player being transferred in this country for a higher amount — for a few seasons at least.

Where are the players who could command such a sum? Only a small, select band could possibly come into this category.

I would like to see the transfer system, as we know it, abolished. I don't know what the solution is, but if club managers, Football League and Football Association officials get together they might find a way to improve on the present situation. As it is, clubs like Norwich, Bristol City and Ipswich have no way of competing for high-priced players. Only Liverpool, Everton, Manchester United, Manchester City, Arsenal and Leeds can afford high fees, yet even they would think twice before paying out a sum of £1m.

Nottingham Forest, an ambitious club determined to gain success in League and Cup competitions, have not been scoring freely this season and obviously calculated that Trevor Francis was the type of striker they needed.

But buying in a big way is no guarantee of success, and as a player expected to supply the goals, a certain burden is placed on Trevor's shoulders. Of course, his record proves he is a goalscorer, and players of his class are rare. Yet to make good on the amount of money they have laid out, Forest must start winning trophies in the immediate future.

As League Champions and big spenders, Forest have staked their claim for inclusion in that select group of elite clubs. Yet it keeps coming back to me that £1m is an unbelievable sum to spend on one player. It wouldn't worry me if such a transfer deal is never repeated in Britain. The transfer system has gone mad.

Football League managers have had their say about Brian Clough's decision to splash-out £1 million on Trevor Francis.

'Joe Public' has also made a meal of the Birmingham-Forest transfer coup, finding it welcome relief from the political unrest and industrial strife that has gripped the country this winter.

Now, the players themselves discuss one of the most sensational transfers in football history in a special SHOOT forum...

BRIAN Clough and Peter Taylor, both astute men, would not think of spending £1m on a player unless they thought he was worth it. In capturing Trevor Francis they have bought a striker who maintains a high scoring average season after season. He is young, and with luck could give Nottingham Forest at least another ten years' service.

In a big-money deal of this sort, I believe the matter of whether or not it is a good or bad thing is really related to the two clubs concerned, and the player. If they are satisfied, then there is justification



'BRUM'S FAILURES COST FRANCIS HONOURS'

Says West Brom's TONY BROWN

for such a transfer.

Admittedly, Birmingham may not be happy at losing a player of the calibre of Trevor Francis, because money isn't everything and it will be difficult to replace him. But the club looks doomed to Second Division football anyway, and the money they have secured from the transfer can go on buying a couple of players to help them secure promotion should they go down.

Even with Trevor in the line up during the last few seasons, Birmingham have been struggling to make a name for themselves, which must have cost Francis a fair number of international caps had he been with a more successful club.

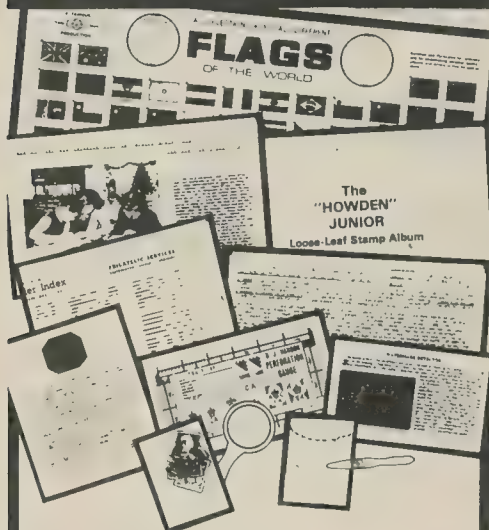
Naturally, the £1m fee paid out by Nottingham Forest captured all the sporting headlines and the imagination of the fans, whether they approved of it or not. Now that this record-breaking transfer has become a reality, the chances are that similar deals could follow in the future.

Like any player, Trevor is anxious to get among the honours, and if Forest continue to be successful, he can expect to be turning out in 60 or 70 matches a season, which highlights the question of him playing in America during the close season. I see nothing wrong in this, but feel that after an arduous season in Britain involving a heavy playing schedule, Trevor himself may consider he is ready for a rest.



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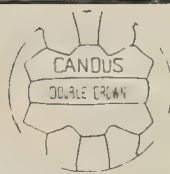
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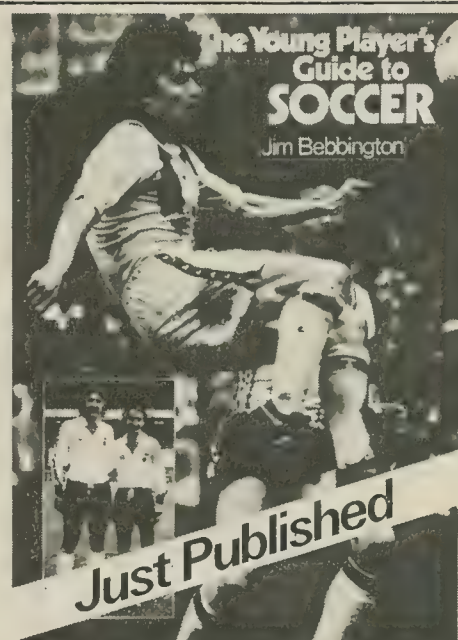
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TREVOR'S DEBUT GIVES HIM A TASTE OF THINGS TO COME

WITHIN a few minutes of his first touch of the ball as a Nottingham Forest player Trevor Francis was learning what it is like to be Britain's first million-pound footballer.

It was only a testimonial game at St. James' Park, Exeter, but Francis' debut in the Forest change strip of yellow had nearly trebled Exeter's average Third Division gate.

With 18 minutes to go and Forest leading comfortably, Forest's assistant-manager Peter Taylor made the decision to put him on as one of three substitutes.

His first touch of the ball brought the crowd on his back with their chant of "What a waste of money".

And in that instance everyone realised the million-pound tag is something that will always make the 24-year-old England striker the crowd's target.

Trevor himself denies he could hear the crowd's jeers and cat-calls, but in the stand it certainly didn't go unnoticed by his attractive wife Helen.

Afterwards she admitted to Trevor: "I felt like running across the park and telling them all to shut-up!"

Unusual

It was in those 18 minutes that the sheer enormity of the Francis fee became obvious. A buzz went around the packed ground as he limbered up along the touchline and this turned into an audible gasp as he peeled-off the green Forest track suit to reveal, for the first time as an officially registered signing, a Nottingham Forest shirt with the unusual number 14 on the back.

There is no doubt it was Francis' appearance, rather than the visit of the League Champions, which swelled the gate to near record proportions.

As the teams came out to honour the testimonial beneficiary, former Brighton, Plymouth and Exeter winger Nicky Jennings, one man turned round and proudly told his son: "That's the million-pound player in the number four shirt."

The player was Forest skipper John McGovern! Another turned to his wife and said: "He cost them a million pounds." And behind a ten-year-old excitedly turned to his mate and said: "He's worth a million, you know."

Perhaps it was typical of the man who signed him, Brian Clough, that he didn't turn up for Francis' debut. Instead, he sent along right-hand man Taylor.

And the Nottingham Forest camp threw a veil of secrecy around their new star. He was refused permission to give any pre-match interviews even to the local commercial television station, and after the game, while



Press-men crowded around, he told them: "I cannot answer questions — it is a club rule."

But he did confide to friends he had enjoyed his first brief spell in a new shirt... and admitted he had been staggered by the approach to a testimonial game.

Peter Taylor's dressing-room team talk had not been one of caution, pleading with players to save themselves for a planned Cup-tie with Arsenal 48 hours later.

Instead, he had treated the match as if it was as important as their League Cup Wembley date with Southampton.

And it showed on the field as Forest tore into the Third Division side and rattled in five goals.

Francis might have expected to find an icy atmosphere at Nottingham as his arrival obviously jeopardised the first team future of one of the squad. Instead he found everyone only too willing to help and encourage him.

His debut had been a long time coming — after strenuous and exacting negotiations with Clough.

For five and a half hours they had argued over terms — the bulk

of that time spent trying to reconcile Trevor's own determination to be allowed to rejoin Detroit Express this summer and Clough's well-versed and well-known aversion to allowing any of his players to join the dollar-laden Eldorado of the States.

In fact that was the only stumbling block in agreeing terms that almost makes Francis — on at least £750 a week at Birmingham City — the country's best paid player.

The switch from doom-laden St. Andrews to a buoyant City Ground also opens the door to far greater riches than can be earned for the sweat and toil of 90 minutes effort every Saturday afternoon.

Now, he can begin to capitalise on his skills off the pitch with a more fashionable and successful club.

Already a Trevor Francis book — expected to yield five figures in royalties — is in the pipeline as publishers scurry to see if they can still make the mail-order Christmas catalogue market.

And elsewhere he is ready to expand into the always lucrative market of endorsements, advertisements and personal appear-

ances.

His new boss, who once publicly told him to take his hands out of his pockets at a Midlands "Player of the Year" televised presentation, has made it plain the £1 million pound fee will mean nothing unless Trevor produces the goods and goals.

Francis, himself, has quickly learned that at Forest it doesn't make too much difference whether you joined on a free transfer or for a British record fee.

In many ways he couldn't have made a more quiet start. Because he played for the first half hour of Birmingham City's Third Round F.A. Cup-tie — before limping off — he was Cup-tied and missed Forest's 1-0 home defeat by Arsenal in the Fifth Round.

His first appearance in the League was as substitute against Bristol City on February 24th.

Already Forest have accepted they are unlikely to retain their League title.

It is this that cast the biggest question-mark over the former Plymouth schoolboy international.

His decision to join Forest instead of Coventry City was nothing to do with money. He may even have been better-off had he joined the Sky Blues as his basic salary with the League Champions is not excessively more than he was earning at St. Andrews.

Adamant

But throughout his long battle to get away from the lower reaches of First Division soccer he has been adamant the major reason for wanting to move was to enjoy the fruits of on-field success.

And he feels he is more likely to achieve that under Clough's management than at Highfield Road.

Because of that he is happy to accept he cannot be guaranteed a first team place with Forest, although he is determined he will repay the huge fee with interest.

His role at Forest is also open to conjecture. In his first game he played wide on the right behind a front three of Tony Woodcock, Garry Birtles and John Robertson.

But that is unlikely to be a permanent position for him and was, rather, a dictate of circumstances.

Who will make way for Francis in the long-term remains one of the great imponderables as Clough can permutate from five or six players for the position of front-runner.

Francis is blessed with common sense and is well able to keep his feet on the ground.

Trevor Francis genuinely casts aside the worry of being this country's most highly-priced footballer. The knives will be out for him should he fail at Forest, but when a player has his undisputed class, his talent can carry him through.

Brian Clough knows that better than anyone.

OVERLEAF: A SPECIALLY-POSED PIN-UP OF TREVOR IN HIS NEW CLUB'S STRIP





TREVOR FRANCIS
Nottingham Forest

Ex-Hibs players who have realised their common ambition — to play in England

'I never gave up hope'

— says Bobby Smith, Leicester's recent signing

BOBBY Smith had to wait nearly ten years before his dream of joining an English club was fulfilled, just five weeks ago.

The 25-year-old midfielder player made up his mind in just ten seconds when Leicester City manager Jock Wallace suddenly stepped in with an £85,000 bid to whisk him away from Hibernian, the club he joined straight from school.

He said: "I never gave up hope someone would recognise I had something to offer the game in England and I had no hesitation in joining City.

"It's just about every Scottish footballer's ambition to play in England and there are many good enough to make it, who are just waiting to be asked."

The small, skilful Scotsman made an immediate impact on the Second Division, scoring on his debut and putting on an impressive performance.

He had only faced English opposition in European matches with Hibs against Liverpool and Leeds and against Bristol City in

the Anglo-Scottish Cup.

"I've not noticed a great difference between the Scottish and English styles of play, except the build-up in England is slower," he said.

Bobby knew all about Wallace's style of play. With Hibs he tackled Rangers when Big Jock was leading them to glory in Scotland's League, League Cup and Scottish Cup competitions.

On loan

"The Scotsmen at Leicester helped me settle in quickly," he said. "Martin Henderson, who I knew while he was on loan to Hibs from Rangers, Eddie Kelly, the assistant-manager Ian MacFarlane, and the boss himself. That debut goal was a boost too."

Bobby started his career as a centre-forward but soon moved to his present attacking midfield role. He scored over 30 goals for Hibs. Born in Dalkeith, just outside



Edinburgh, his father, Alex, was a professional footballer with Motherwell and East Fife.

When he is not playing football Bobby will tackle any other sport. "My hobbies are all sporting," he says, "golf, badminton, tennis, squash and a whole list of others."

Training

His fitness helped him cope with Leicester's rigorous training programme but he says Scottish players on the whole seem to have a tougher time in training than their English counterparts.

He is now looking for a house in the Leicester area. "After spending my life in Edinburgh I have left a lot of friends up there and my parents still live in Dalkeith. But I will be seeing them quite often.

"I have no regrets. The team is young and enthusiastic and it looks as if we are heading for the First Division. It's just great to be part of it."

'Football is faster down here'

— claims John Brownlie, at Newcastle



WHEN John Brownlie left Hibernian for Newcastle United, he prepared himself for the challenge of a lifetime in season 1978-79. And after the testing opening months, the Scottish international has come to the conclusion the English game contrasts sharply in two vital aspects — speed and finishing.

Says John: "The football is faster down here and more use is made of the chances offered. I waited a long time to make the move into English football, and now I have to prove I can do a worthwhile job on Tyneside. But there were occasions when I wondered whether or not I would ever leave Scotland."

Before Brownlie moved across the border, two meetings between Hib's officials and Newcastle United manager Bill McGarry had threatened to end in stalemate, with the player almost in despair. Initially, the Hibs' delegation had walked out of talks with the United boss after failing to agree on a price for the deal, which also included Newcastle midfielder man Ralph Callaghan returning to Scotland.

Then at a second meeting, the two parties reached a financial agreement but Callaghan refused to move. Fortunately for Brownlie, the United player changed his mind and there was satisfaction on both sides.

"I was happy," says John. "It was always my great ambition to play in England, and I believe most Scots feel the same way. With Newcastle, I'm getting the opportunity, and I intend to make the most of it.

"At the present time, Newcastle still have a small chance of promotion, but to improve we must pick up more points away. We've done all right at home, and this isn't surprising — our supporters are the greatest. The Scots have the reputation of being daft about soccer, but they are nothing compared to the fans here, who can only be described as fanatical.

Original pool

"They deserve a team in the top part of the First Division, and as a player, this is where I would like to be."

The 26-year-old Brownlie was in last year's original pool of 40 players for Scotland in the World Cup, although he failed to make the final party of 22 who travelled to Argentina. But earlier, he had enjoyed a meteoric rise to fame when winning his first Scottish cap as a 19-year-old against Russia.

Then followed five more caps and a regular place in the national side until he broke a leg against

East Fife, resulting in a lay-off, which turned out to be the unhappy spell in his career with Hibs.

"I must have been unbearable to be with, and my fiancée was among those who suffered. After the leg being in plaster for four months, I did all my pre-season training, before a doctor discovered the break had not healed properly. I was just 21, and at the end of my tether when I had to go back into plaster again."

But better days followed. Brownlie married his fiancée and they have a son. He has now fought his way back into the Scottish team.

"I was chosen to play against Rumania over two years ago. I've years ahead of me to get back into the Scotland side but my immediate priority is to consolidate my place in the Newcastle team.

"In the past, I have always found I did best when there was plenty of atmosphere and games had a competitive edge. Playing for Scotland against England at Hampden in 1972 — we lost 1-0 — before a crowd of 119,000 was my happiest experience in football.

"With Newcastle, there is loads of atmosphere at St. James' Park, and matches against top and bottom clubs can be equally competitive. And with plenty of Scots on the books, I feel I couldn't have joined a better club in England."

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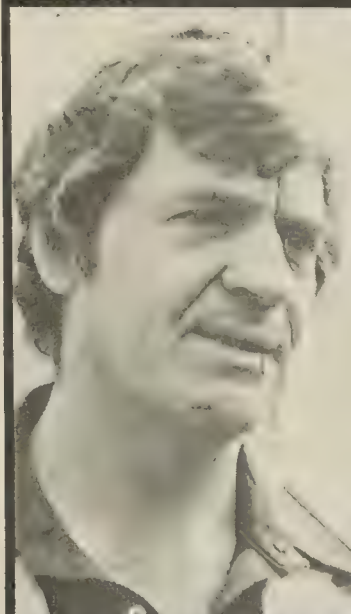


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All this and much, much more in next week's League Cup Final issue.

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'TOP CLUBS MUST HAVE PITCH PROTECTION NEXT SEASON'

I'VE had mixed feelings about the enforced winter-break this year; naturally, like every footballer, professional or not, I love to play and there is nothing more frustrating than having Saturday's game called off. However, from a purely personal viewpoint, the rest has enabled my injured knee to heal completely, whereas under normal circumstances I'd have been playing regularly. The extra few weeks gave the knee ligaments time to get even stronger, so in one respect the bad weather helped.

From Chelsea's point of view it was good — and bad — to have a break. I suppose it was good to get away from the strain of relegation, even though our results had taken a turn for the better. But bad, because apart from simply missing playing, the players are aware that the club needs regular revenue through the turnstiles.

This has hit most clubs and I hope all 92 League clubs have a long think about the winter of '79 and learn from the mistakes. Really, there should be no excuse for every one of the teams in the top two Divi-

**RAY
WILKINS**
Writes for you

sions, at least, not to have some sort of pitch protection when next winter arrives.

As far as I know, only Arsenal, Leeds and Leicester have come through the past few months without big problems of staging home games, and although I don't know the technical ins and outs, Leicester's hot-air balloon, which costs around £15,000, I believe, seems the best idea of all.

Fifteen thousand pounds isn't going to bankrupt any of the bigger sides. Even if this has been a freak winter, it still is amazing that so many top clubs don't have adequate pitch protection.

Clubs pay huge transfer fees for players — and then can't play



"A common sight this winter — a snow-covered St. Andrews, home of Birmingham City."



"Leicester's pitch covering enabled them to play Newcastle in February, one of only five games that afternoon."

cause the grounds are unfit. It isn't make sense, but let's hope 9/80 sees a marked improvement for everyone's sake, not least the fans.

If I've missed playing, I'm sure the supporters have missed their Saturday afternoon ritual just as much. Especially the married ones, who may have been made to go shopping!

Only once did Chelsea have a game called off on the Friday, so my routine has been pretty well the same, although deep down I knew I was training for no purpose. It was like being suspended — training hard all week, yet knowing you can't play at the end of it.

Chelsea have been lucky and our training schedule hasn't been interrupted too much. On two or three occasions the snow was too deep; then, we were whisked away to the Barclays Bank ground at Ealing where there is a first-class gym. Other times, we've managed a game on a rugby pitch, which although covered with snow was still flat enough to be safe.

Mostly, we've played practice matches and when games were postponed, Danny Blanchflower had us training Saturdays and Sundays to keep up our fitness.

Varied

It was interesting to watch the television for a couple of Saturday afternoons. I couldn't enjoy it, because I felt I should be playing and couldn't settle down. Having said that, the T.V. companies do a marvellous job, giving viewers a wide and varied choice of sports.

Dressing-room chat has been different from usual, with no match to talk about or look forward to. Now we're back in action, things are back to normal, thank goodness! I think we exhausted every possible idea about the weather and what should be done!

A winter-break? A good idea in some ways. The weather is usually bad around the turn of the Year and

perhaps a month off would benefit everyone. Against that, clubs have their biggest attendances over the holiday period and such vital revenue would be sorely missed.

Only once can I remember playing on an 'unplayable' pitch, against West Brom at Stamford Bridge when we were in Division Two. We were slipping and sliding all over the place and the game was a farce.

The referee has a very difficult decision to make regarding matches — I don't envy him. Some people would like the managers or captains to have a say and, again, there are arguments for and against.

Players, more than anyone, know whether a surface is dangerous or not, yet it often happens that one side would prefer a postponement ... to get a key player fit, for instance.

I don't know what sort of chaos the fixture pile-up is going to leave with us — we haven't even had the crowded Easter programme yet! May is the month of Euro Finals and internationals, but it looks as if the League programme will continue right through to June.

Changing the subject, I've just completed my P.F.A. voting forms and my Player of the Year is Arsenal's Liam Brady. Every time I see the Irish star he plays brilliantly and this season has added the sort of consistency and goal-power to his game that makes him a truly outstanding midfielder player.

My Young Player may surprise you ... Gary Owen of Manchester City, who has done well in a side playing badly. Gary has also made his mark for the England Under-21's.

My First Division Team: Peter Shilton; Viv Anderson, Dave Watson, David O'Leary and Derek Statham; Liam Brady, Asa Hartford and Tony Currie; Trevor Francis, Paul Mariner and Peter Barnes.

Join me again in two weeks.

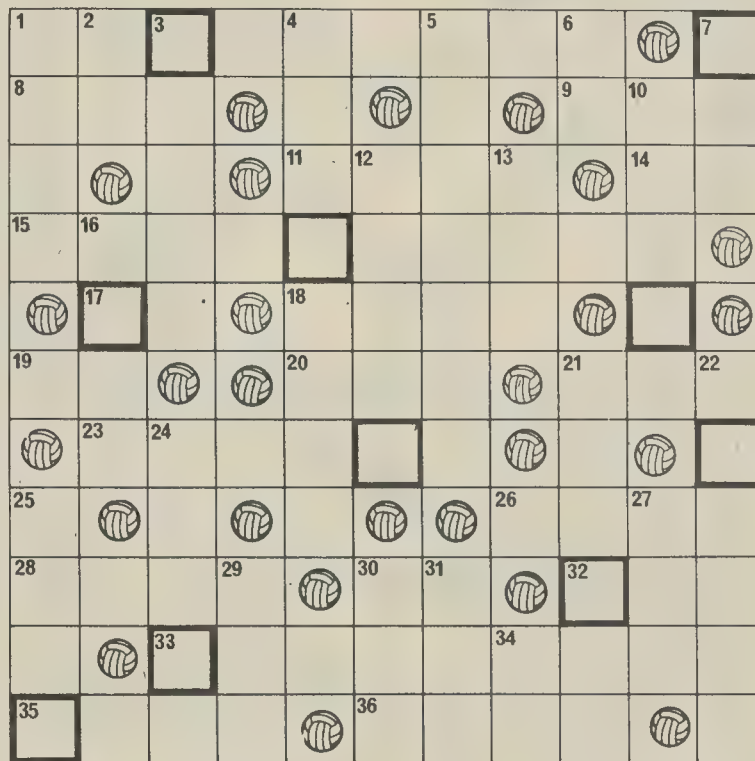
Raymond

"Forest striker Trevor Francis is in my Team of the Year."



Go for the Double

After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of a Manchester City defender. Answers on page 42.



ACROSS:—

- (1) — United, Division Three club whose ground is Millmoor.
- (8) Number of goals in the 1977-78 European Cup Final. (Liverpool v. Bruges).
- (9) -i-b-r-t Street (Leicester City). The omissions reversed.
- (11) --bey --adium (Cambridge). Labels from the missing letters.
- (14) John --yoo made 597 League appearances for Bristol City over 15 years.
- (15) — Town. Division Three club from Gay Meadow.
- (17) Cliff B--tin of Arsenal won Football League Championship and F.A. Cup medals and his first international cap before the age of 20.
- (18) Dennis Mor----r (Aston Villa). Single article from the omissions.
- (19) — Salvador; Central American soccer country.
- (20) Gle-t--an; Irish League club.
- (21) --o-es. What would complete the name of a French League club?
- (23) Transgress, or break the rules.
- (26) Gle-- P--k, Brechin City's ground.
- (28) Bobby--, Sunderland player.
- (30) — Andrews, Birmingham City's ground.
- (32) By way of.
- (33) The Sandgrounders from Haig Avenue.
- (35) Moral or legal obligation.
- (36) Take four letters from Barnsley to give a period of time.

DOWN:—

- (1) Trevor —, Everton midfielder player.
- (2) Scunthorpe United are nicknamed The Ir--s.
- (3) Might be shed after a victory or a defeat for different reasons.
- (4) Interwoven. Like players legs after a tackle, perhaps.
- (5) Trevor —, Southampton striker.
- (6) -ain- Road, Manchester City's ground.
- (7) M--ns--field --own, The Stags.
- (10) — Road, Colchester United's ground.
- (12) John — former Manchester United winger.
- (13) Take three letters from Portsmouth to give "total".
- (16) Circle which might denote one of The Saints.
- (21) — Whymark, Vancouver Whitecaps striker.
- (22) Terry —, Coventry City midfielder.
- (24) Foremost in position or rank.
- (25) Slide sideways.
- (27) St--- Park, Stranraer.
- (29) — Greaves, Bolton Wanderers' midfielder player.
- (30) Gre--- Road, Crewe Alexandra.
- (31) Tom Ri-c-i- of Bristol City.
- (34) Malcolm --ge of Birmingham City.



COUNTY'S LITTLE STRIKER CAN GO A LONG WAY

PAUL Hooks, one of the smallest strikers in the Second Division, is a tiny forward with a big heart.

Hooks is only 5ft 8in tall, but he has certainly made a number of First Division scouts sit up this season with his impressive displays for Notts County.

The talented teenager joined County straight from school and quickly made a big impression on the side.

Although he has been linked with a number of top clubs, Hooks would prefer to reach the First Division by helping County gain promotion.

He says: "This club gave me a chance of becoming a professional. Now I want to repay everyone at Meadow Lane who has helped me by scoring goals and trying to finish in the top three."

His size has not stopped Hooks from developing into one of the most exciting prospects in the Second Division. He is the type of tough striker who is prepared to work for his goals.

But Hooks still has considerable skill and has worried most Second Division defences this season. County boss Jimmy Sirrel points out: "Paul is the type of player who will keep on running whatever the score. The side could be losing 6-0 with three minutes left, but Paul will keep his head up and press on. At first his temper used to be a slight problem. But he has grown-up a lot since winning a regular place in the first team."

"He is not afraid to go in where it hurts and he will always give every-

thing throughout the whole 90 minutes."

Paul, born in the North-East, followed Newcastle as a youngster. He says: "Everyone who comes from that part of the country is almost raised with a football."

"It was all I ever wanted to do. I love to go to St. James's Park and turn on a really good performance. The supporters up there are marvellous and they have a deep understanding of the game."

"But I have no regrets about joining County. We have a fine set of players on the staff and Mr. Sirrel has passed on his very valuable experience," says Hooks.

"We didn't get off to a very good start this season, but have picked up recently and are still in the promotion hunt."

"I like scoring goals, but the main priority is to win. It has been a lot tougher this year because the Second Division standard is so high."

"There are a number of very good clubs in the Division and that's why it's been so tight at the top. It might not be finally decided until right up until the last game."

Hooks, who scored four goals last season, is being used more as a target man since Les Bradd moved to Stockport County last summer.

He says: "You have to expect to take knocks. But Mick Vinter and I are starting to form a good partnership and I am sure it won't be long before we are up with Nottingham Forest in the First Division. Then watch us go."

FOREST'S LEFT-BACK DOESN'T WANT TO BE LEFT OUT

COLIN Barrett has a special reason for wanting to keep Nottingham Forest's League Cup Final date at Wembley on March 17th.

Barrett, ruled out of last season's League Cup Final because of an ankle injury, is determined not to miss the big occasion for a second successive year.

He started off the season in sparkling form and quickly won praise from manager Brian Clough. Barrett also grabbed the vital second goal, against Liverpool in the European Cup, but was carried off just ten days later in a League game with Middlesbrough.

But now the former Manchester City full-back is hoping to wear the number three shirt in the Forest line-up when they meet Southampton.

He says: "Of course, it was a big blow to be out of the side last season in the final run-in. I would like to go to Wembley this time and help us keep the Cup at the City Ground. It could be our passport into Europe if we should slip up in the next couple of months. But we don't like to think about that!"

Barrett adds: "I must stress that during the time I was out of the side with my knee injury, everyone at the club has been a great help. Kenny Burns got a knock a couple of months after me and in a way we helped each other back to fitness."

"It was hard work and both of us had to come back in the afternoon

when all the other players had gone home to train alone. But it's all been worth it. The club is approaching a very exciting couple of months."

Ian Bowyer and the experienced Frank Clark have shared the left-back spot during Barrett's spell on the sideline.

Both players have done well, but manager Brian Clough rates Barrett highly. He pointed out: "Full-back is often a very under-rated position. But when we were not playing all that well at the start of the new season, Colin really proved what a valuable member of the team he is."

"Colin has shown us over the last two years how much he has improved."

Forest could become the first side to capture the League Cup two years running.

Barrett is convinced that the competition is no longer regarded as second class. "It is a trophy all clubs want to win. Last season's Final showed how important the League Cup has become."

"We feel confident that we can keep the Cup, but Wembley is a funny place — Southampton showed that when they beat Manchester United."

"We have played them a lot over the last few seasons and all the games have been very close."



RESULTS... SCORERS... TEAM LINE-UPS

FRIDAY, FEB. 2

THIRD DIVISION

(Continued)

SOUTHEND (2) 2 (Moody pen., Parker) 4,322
CHESTERFIELD (0) 0
 Southend: Cawston; Moody, Yates, Stead, Hadley, Cusack, Morris, Pountney, Parker, Dudley, Fell.
 Chesterfield: Letheran; Tarr, Burton, Hunter, Cottam, Prohett, Kowalski, Moss, Fern, Salmons, Walker.

SWANSEA 0
CARLISLE 0 10,821
 Swansea: Crudgington; Evans, Phillips, Smith, Stevenson, Charles, Moore, James (R), Curtis, Waddle, Callaghan.
 Carlisle: Swinburne; Hoolickin, McCartney, MacDonald, Tait, Carter, McVitie, Bonnyman, Ludlam, Kemp, Hamilton.

FOURTH DIVISION

NEWPORT (2) 3 (Goddard 2, Lowndes) 3,659
HARTLEPOOL (1) 2 (Newton pen., Linacre)
 Newport: Plumley; Walden, Byrne, Thompson, Davies, Bruton (Relish), Oakes, Lowndes, Goddard, Sinclair, Vaughan.
 Hartlepool: Richardson; Smith (G), Goiry, Hogan (Norton), Brooks, Smith (T), Linacre, Goldthorpe, Crumplin, Newton, Loadwick.

SATURDAY, FEB. 3

FIRST DIVISION

BRISTOL C (2) 3 (Whitehead, Tainton, Gow) 17,025
IPSWICH (0) 1 (Mariner)
 Bristol C: Shaw; Sweeney, Cooper, Gow, Rodgers, Collier, Tainton, Mabbutt, Royle, Cormack, Whitehead.
 Ipswich: Cooper; Mills, Tibbott, Parkin, (Geddis), Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhren, Mariner, Whymark, Woods.

CHELSEA (1) 2 (Wilkins, R. 2) 22,129
BIRMINGHAM (0) 1 (Bertschin)
 Chelsea: Bonetti; Wilkins (G), Stride, Bannon, Droy (Harris), Nutton, Stanley, Wilkins (R), Osgood, Langley, Walker.
 Birmingham: Montgomery; Tarantini, Pendrey, Broadhurst, Gallagher, Page, Bertschin, Francis, Givens, Buckley (Towers), Dillon.

LEEDS (1) 1 (Currie)
COVENTRY (0) 0 22,928
 Leeds: Harvey; Cherry, Stevenson, Flynn, Parkinson, Madeley, Gray (F), Hankin, Harris, Currie, Graham.
 Coventry: Blyth; Coop, McDonald, Hagan, Holton, Blair, Yorath, Wallace, Ferguson, Powell (Hunt), Hutchison.

LIVERPOOL (1) 2 (Dalglish, Fairclough) 52,211
W.B.A. (0) 1 (Brown: A.)
 Liverpool: Clemence; Neal, Kennedy (A), Hansen, Kennedy (R), Hughes, Dalglish, Case (Heighway), Fairclough, McDermott, Souness.
 W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Statham, Brown (T), Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A), Regis, Cantello (Mills), Cunningham.

MAN. UTD (0) 0
ARSENAL (0) 2 (Sunderland 2) 45,460
 Man. U: Bailey; Greenhoff (B), Houston, Nicholl, McQueen, Buchan, Coppell, Greenhoff (J), (Ritchie), Macari, McLroy, Thomas.
 Arsenal: Jennings; Rice, Nelson, Talbot, O'Leary, Young, Brady, Sunderland, Stapleton, Price, Rix.

MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 1 (Proctor)
NOTTM FOREST (1) 3 (Birtles 2, Robertson pen.) 31,330
 Middlesbrough: Stewart; Ashcroft, Johnson, Mahoney, Boam, McAndrew, Cochrane, Proctor, Burns (Hodgson), Cummings, Armstrong.
 Nottm F: Shilton; Anderson, Bowyer, McGovern, Lloyd, Burns, O'Neill, Gemmill, Birtles, Woodcock, Robertson.

NORWICH 0
BOLTON 0 15,369
 Norwich: Keelan; Bond, Davies, Ryan, Hoadley, Powell, Lythgoe, Reeves, Fashanu (Robb), McGuire, Peters.
 Bolton: McDonagh; Nicholson, Dunne, Greaves, Jones, Walsh, Morgan, Burke, Whatmore, Worthington, McNab.

SOUTHAMPTON (1) 1 (Peach pen.) 21,109
DERBY (1) 2 (Duncan, Powell)
 Southampton: Gennoe; Golac, Peach, Williams, Nicholl, Waldron, Ball, Boyer, Hebbard, Holmes, Curran (Sealy).
 Derby: McKellar; Langan, Buckley, Rioch, McFarland, Wicks, Clark, Powell, Caskey, Duncan (Moreland), Greenwood.

TOTTENHAM (0) 0
MAN. CITY (2) 3 (Kidd pen., Barnes, Channon) 32,037
 Tottenham: Kendall; McAllister, Holmes, Hoddle, Lacy, Perryman, Calvin, Ardiles, Armstrong, Beavon, Taylor.
 Man. C: Corrigan; Donachie, Power, Owen, Watson, (Deyna), Futchner (P), Channon, Bell, Kidd, Hartford, Barnes.

WOLVES (1) 1 (Daley)
EVERTON (0) 0 21,892
 Wolves: Bradshaw; Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, Berry, McAlle, Hibbitt, Daley, Bell, Eves, Carr.
 Everton: Wood; Wright, Higgins, Lyons, Todd, Ross, King, Dobson, Latchford, Walsh (Heard), Thomas.

Postponed: Aston Villa v Q.P.R.



Mike Channon scored Manchester City's third goal in their 3-0 win against Spurs at White Hart Lane.

SECOND DIVISION

BRIGHTON (2) 3 (Maybank, Sayer, Ward)
LEICESTER (1) 1 (Davies) 19,973
 Brighton: Moseley; Oatlin, Williams, Horton, Rollings, Lawrenson, Ryan (Ward), Poskett, Maybank, Sayer, O'Sullivan.
 Leicester: Wallington; Whitworth, Rofe, O'Neill, May, Williams, Peake, Ridley (Buchanan), Henderson, Davies, Smith.

CAMBRIDGE 0
LUTON 0 8,125
 Cambridge: Webster; Cozens, Smith, Stringer, Fallon, Leach, Garner, Spriggs, Christie, Finney, Biley.
 Luton: Lawson; Stephens, Aizlewood, Donaghy, Turner, Price, Moss, Hill, Taylor, Hatton, West.

NOTTS CO (0) 1 (Mann)
CHARLTON (0) 1 (Robinson) 7,958
 Notts Co: McManus; Richards, O'Brien, Blockley, Stubbs, Mann, McCulloch, Masson, Hooks, Hunt, Vintner.
 Charlton: Johns; Shaw, Campbell, Gritt, Shipperley, Berry, Powell, Robinson, Flanagan, Madden, Peacock (Penfold).

ORIENT (0) 2 (Mayo, Kitchen pen.)
NEWCASTLE (0) 0 7,251
 Orient: Jackson; Fisher, Roffey, Hughton, Gray, Went, Chiedozie, Moores, Mayo, Kitchen, Coates.

Newcastle: Hardwick; Brownlie, Mitchell, Martin, Barton, Blackley, Shoulder, Nattrass, Withe, Hibbitt, Robison (Guy).

SUNDERLAND (0) 3 (Rowell pen., Rostron, Entwistle)
BURNLEY (1) 1 (James) 23,030
 Sunderland: Siddall; Henderson, Gilbert, Arnott, Clarke, Elliott, Buckley, Rostron, Entwistle, Lee, Rowell.
 Burnley: Stevenson; Scott, Brennan, Noble, Thomson, Rodaway, Hall, Ingham, Morley, Kindon, James.

Postponed: Blackburn v Cardiff; Millwall v Fulham; Oldham v C. Palace; Sheff. U v West Ham; Stoke v Preston; Wrexham v Bristol R.

THIRD DIVISION

GILLINGHAM (0) 2 (Westwood 2, 1 pen)
SHREWSBURY (1) 1 (Turner) 5,129
 Gillingham: Hillyard; Sharpe, Barker, Overton, Weatherley, Crabbe, Nicholl, Hughes, Price, Westwood, Jolley.
 Shrewsbury: Hestford; Malone, Pashley, Thompson, Suddaby, McEwan, Ronson, Wilson, Jones, Davidson, Wagstaffe (Weston).

HULL (1) 1 (Bannister)
SHREWSBURY (1) 1 (Turner) 5,129
 Hull: Blackburn; Nisbet, DeVries, Hawker, Dobson, Haigh, Warboys, Lord, Edwards, Bannister, Galvin.
 Shrewsbury: Wardle; King, Larkin, Turner, Griffin, Keay, Chapman, Atkins, Tong, Biggins, Maguire.

PETERBOROUGH (0) 0
WALSALL (1) 3 (Austin 2, McDonough) 4,466
 Peterborough: Waugh; Hindley, Styles, Doyle, Green, Ross, Anderson (McEwan), Holman, Butlin, Cooke, Robson.
 Walsall: Turner; Harrison, Caswell, Macken, Serella, Sbragia, Birch, Waddington, Austin, Jones McDonough.

PLYMOUTH (2) 2 (Trusson 2)
TRANMERE (1) 2 (Moore pen., Parry) 7,418
 Plymouth: Hodge; Uzzell, McNeill, Bason, Foster, Clarke, Megson, Sutton, Binney, Perrin, Rogers.
 Tranmere: Johnson; Mathias, Flood, Bramhall, Postlewhite, Parry, Peplow (McAuley), Craven, Moore, Evans, Palios.

SWINDON (1) 2 (McHale, Carter)
CHESTER (0) 0 6,036
 Swindon: Allan; Hamilton, Ford, McHale, Aizlewood, Stroud, Miller Carter, Rowland, Bates, Williams.
 Chester: Lloyd; Nickeas, Raynor, Storton, Jeffries, Phillips, Jones, Livermore, Edwards, Felix, Henderson.

WATFORD (0) 2 (Jenkins 2)
ROTHERHAM (2) 2 (Phillips, Gwyther) 12,857
 Watford: Sherwood; Stirk, Harrison, Booth, Sims, Garner, Downes, Blissett, Jenkins, Joslyn (Mercer), Train.
 Rotherham: McAllister; Forest, Breckin, Stancliffe, Green, Flynn, Finney, Phillips, Gwyther, Crawford, Smith.

Postponed: Bury v. Sheff. W; Lincoln v. Brentford; Mansfield v. Oxford.

FOURTH DIVISION

ALDERSHOT (1) 2 (Needham, Dungworth)
SCUNTHORPE (0) 0 3,669
 Aldershot: Johnson; Howitt, Wooler Dixon, Youlden, Jopling, Crosby, Brodie, Needham, Dungworth, McGregor.
 Scunthorpe: Crawford; O'Donnell (Gibson), Pilling, Oates, Deere, Czuczman, Grimes, Kilmore, Earls, Kavanagh, Keeley.

BOURNEMOUTH (1) 7 (Scott 2, MacDougall 2, Lennard, Johnson, Barton)
DONCASTER (0) 1 (Laidlaw) 2,986
 Bournemouth: Allen; Cunningham, Ferns, Miller, Brown (R), Barton, Borthwick, MacDougall, Scott, Lennard, Johnson.
 Doncaster: Peacock; Olney, Snodin, Bowden, Bradley, Lally, Meagan, French, Owen (Pugh), Laidlaw, Bentley.

GRIMSBY (1) 2 (Waters, Ford)
HUDDERSFIELD (1) 1 (Robins) 4,919
 Grimsby: Batch; Moore (D), Moore (K), Waters, Barker, Crombie, Brolly, Ford, Lester, Cumming, Mitchell.
 Huddersfield: Starling; Brown, Sandercock, Hart, Topping (Lillis), Sutton, Gray, Cowling, Fletcher, Robins, Bielby.

HEREFORD (1) 1 (Holmes, W.) 3,107
YORK (0) 0
 Hereford: Hughes; Price, Burrows, Hunt, Cornes, Emery, Stephens, Holmes (W), Crompton, Feeley, Gould.
 York: Brown; Kay, Walsh, Pugh, Faulkner, Clements, Ford, Randall, Wellings McDonald, Staniforth.

TORQUAY (0) 1 (Johnson) 3,495
READING (1) 1 (Earles)
 Torquay: Turner; Darke, Parsons, Twitchin, Boulton, Dunne, Wilson, Lawrence, Coffill (Davies), Cooper, Johnson.
 Reading: Death; Peters, White, Bowman, Hicks, Bennett, Earles, Kearns, Kearney, Wanklyn, Lewis.

WIGAN (1) 2 (Wright, Corrigan) 8,289
PORTSMOUTH (0) 0
 Wigan: Brown; Smart, Hinnigan, Gore, Ward, Fretwell, Corrigan, Wright, Moore, Houghton, Purdie.
 Portsmouth: Mellor; Ellis, Viney, Denyer, Foster, Davey, Hemmerman (Showers), McIlwraith, Garwood, Lathan, Pullar.

WIMBLEDON (1) 3 (Parsons, Galvin, Denny)
ROCHDALE (2) 2 (Jones, Hoy) 3,166
 Wimbledon: Goddard; Bryant, Haverson, Ketteridge, Galvin, Perkins, Driver (Knowles), Briley, Leslie, Denny, Parsons.
 Rochdale: Felgate; Creamer, Taylor, Scaife, Scott, Snookes, Hoy, Owen (Bannon), Jones, O'Loughlin, Esser.

Postponed: Barnsley v. Darlington; Halifax v. Bradford; Northampton v. Port Vale; Stockport v. Crewe.

SCOTTISH PREMIER

Postponed: Aberdeen v. Partick; Celtic v. St. Mirren; Dundee U. v. Hearts; Hibs v. Morton; Rangers v. Motherwell.

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.

Have you ordered your March issue of Soccer Monthly? If not, do so quickly because it contains too many fascinating articles to miss. Drugs... is there a problem in British football? Manchester City... the whole story and the men behind it. Steve Hunt... Why British is best. Paolo Rossi... the most valuable footballer in the world. The League Cup... a complete history by Brian Glanville. Testimonials... Bernard Joy reveals some startling facts. Greig and McNeill... Scotland's top club bosses. Paul Madeley... A rare and interesting interview. Alan Sunderland... His international ambitions. And more, much, much more with plenty of stunning colour photographs.

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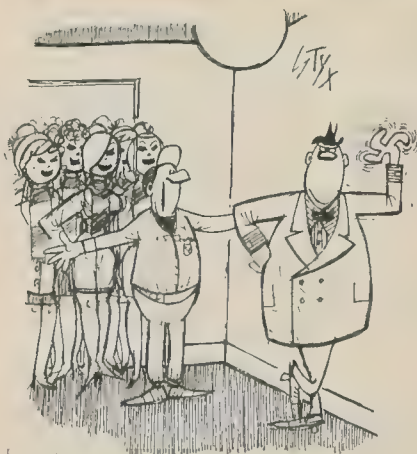
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FOOTBALL FUNNIES

This week Tottenham's new signing GORDON SMITH (right) selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



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"But, boss — you told me to go out and find some fresh talent"



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"Our big headed centre-forward has just torn up his contract"

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Why Everton haven't bought 'Foreign'

"WE have nothing to learn from the Continentals" — That was the statement that landed Gordon Lee in a lot of hot water with the English Press after the 1978 World Cup Finals.

Many observers believed the competition to be the most exciting for years, and the fact that England were absent from a second successive tournament, proved that we had to look deeply at our own game.

The Everton manager disputed that. He believed, and still does, that the English First Division is the toughest and the best League in the world, and that very few imported players can adapt to it.

Lee is not against the influx of Continental footballers into our game. Rather surprisingly, he says he would even sign one himself if the player was not likely to have problems learning English, was likely to improve the Everton team, and most important of all, if, as an individual, he was better than the players already established at Goodison Park.

But, although always on the look-out for good players, Lee believes it would be difficult to improve his present squad. Adding a Continental player to it is far from his mind.

"When I sign a player I want to find out all there is to know about him," says Lee. "Down to what toothpaste he uses. I couldn't possibly hope to know that by snapping up somebody who had impressed me in the World Cup Finals.

"I'm challenging for the League Championship with my present squad. What are Tottenham doing with their imported players? How about Sheffield United? Why are they struggling in the Second Division? Birmingham haven't done well despite signing Alberto Tarantini. I don't believe they are the answer to clubs' problems.

Flocking

"Tottenham, with Argentinian imports Osvaldo Ardiles and Ricardo Villa, are the most watched away team this season, but I haven't seen too many people flocking to see Sheffield United and Alex Sabella, or Ipswich Town with their Dutchmen. Or come to that, Manchester City and Deyna," says Lee.

But he does accept that Tottenham have something a little out of the ordinary, and that, for a time people are going to want to see the Argentinians playing in English stadiums. But Lee believes the novelty will wear off, especially if Tottenham fail to make any lasting impression on the First Division.

"Of course, there is the novelty value," he says. "But I believe that will shortly wear off. In my opinion people only really want to watch a successful side. I can offer facts to

support that. If Tottenham fail to bring their supporters success, then the gates would fall. Who is to say that their League gates at home would have been any less than they have been for a side that has just won promotion from the Second Division without the Argentinians. These are things that we will never know."

Lee's own side, Everton, have been labelled "boring" this season. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Anyone who watched them on a regular basis would qualify that. After all, the majority of the present side scored 76 First Division goals in season 1977-78, and a team that totalled that many goals one year do not just forget how to carry it on.

Ardiles and Villa helped win the World Cup for Argentina, there is no disputing that. But even so, Gordon Lee will not concede that a player such as Ardiles would improve his or any side in the world. There is no doubt that Ardiles is world class, but Lee believes: "If that competition had

"I know of very few Continentals that can keep up the pace that English football demands, or offer the stamina to complete our season.

"Ardiles is what I call a continuity player. He is very quick, aware of what is happening around him, and plays a very astute, and telling short ball. But I know of a lot of English players that do that just as well. One thing Ardiles does not do well is score goals. Up until Christmas this season Ross, King and Dobson had scored more than 20 goals between them. That speaks for itself.

Continental

"I do not want to give the impression that I am knocking Ardiles. He is a great player, but his name just springs to mind more readily than a dozen more Continentals.

"I am not against foreigners coming into our game. The whole point of my argument is that we

tend to criticise our football far too much. We have a lot of good players in England, a lot of great players too, who, I believe, are more naturally able to adapt to the demands of English football.

"In their own country, playing for their own national teams, the Continentals can look brilliant. Very often across here, just ordinary players.

"It is all about different systems, different styles. There is a great saying that it is very difficult to teach an old dog new tricks.

"That applies to footballers. Once he had grown accustomed to one style of play, unless he is either very young, or has an exceptional understanding of football, it is difficult to teach him to change.

"So I will continue to welcome Continentals into England. But I still believe that we have very little wrong with our own game. We ought to be proud of it, not keep looking for alternatives. You never stop learning, and we can be taught a lot of things, but I still say that we have the best on which to build."



Everton's midfielder Martin Dobson scores against Southampton.

been held in Holland, then Holland would have won it.

"If it had been held in Scotland, then Ally MacLeod would now be thought of in the same way as Cesar Luis Menotti is in Argentina.

"So my point is that buying a player who now has the most recent winners' medal will not mean he is better than those on my books.

"The three players that I regard as my first team choice midfield at Everton, Martin Dobson, Andy King and Trevor Ross complement each other very well. They are all capable of playing two games a week, in all conditions, scoring goals, and doing a very good defensive job.



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BRENDON BATSON

West Bromwich Albion

FULL NAME: Brendon Martin Batson
BIRTHPLACE: St. Georges, Grenada, West Indies
BIRTHDATE: 6th February, 1953
HEIGHT: 5ft 11ins
WEIGHT: 11st 12lbs
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Arsenal and Cambridge United
MARRIED: To Cecily
CHILDREN: Daughter, Zoë
CAR: Toyota Carina
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Former Manchester United striker Denis Law
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Cambridge United
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: None is easy
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Playing against Valencia in Spain during the U.E.F.A.

Cup this season
BIGGEST THRILL: Being present at the birth of my daughter
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: None so far
FAVOURITE FOOD: Chinese
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Switzerland
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Playing golf, listening to music and reading
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Cleaning my car and TV's Crossroads
FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: The Good Life, The Sweeney and The World About Us
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Stevie Wonder, Elkie Brooks and Joan Armatrading
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Clint Eastwood and Faye Dunaway
BEST FRIEND: My brother, Godfrey
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My wife and family

BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Injuries and soccer hooligans
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: None yet
PERSONAL AMBITION: Happiness and eight score draws on Littlewoods
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To win a major trophy
IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? I'll cross that bridge when I come to it
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Golfer Jack Nicklaus

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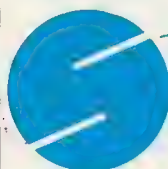


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HAVE Sheffield Wednesday learned anything from their epic nine-hour F.A. Cup Third Round duel with Arsenal which stretched over five matches?

The aftermath, blue and white scarves everywhere and match reports tucked lovingly away with a special souvenir colour poster reliving the action, offers manager Jack Charlton optimism for the future.

Until the draw with The Gunners came out of the bag he was swimming against a strong tide. The Cup clash has reversed the current and given the players and supporters a belief in themselves.

Brian Hornsby, once an Arsenal striker alongside Ray Kennedy and Brian Kidd and now Wednesday's midfield strategist and leading goal-scorer, says happily: "The big crowd made a tremendous difference. They were special. If we could buy them for our League games we would be on our way."

As the marathon tie stretched on, Hornsby scoring three times against his former club (two in the second replay, one in the third replay) Wednesday's giantkilling attempt captured the imagination of people in places as far away as Scotland, Norway and Holland. Telegrams flowed in from these outposts. In the dressing-room the atmosphere was more restrained.

"It was quite funny in a way," said Hornsby, "in the week leading up to the first game, at Hillsborough, Arsenal weren't mentioned. You would have thought it was a normal



Brian Hornsby (left) scores for Wednesday v. Arsenal in a second replay.

League game approaching.

"On the Saturday morning Jack went through the team. Apart from him telling Jeff Johnson to mark Liam Brady, it was just a case of 'go out and compete'. Mind you that's Jack's normal practice. He'll get a dossier on our opponents' weaknesses or strengths, but he won't go on about them during the week.

"The first game was the one we had to get over. When we were at High-bury our confidence was unbeliev-

able. We really felt we could win. Every time we went out believing we could beat them and it was so disappointing that we didn't play so well in the last match.

"Personally, I cannot see anything but this club going forward. It has got to happen. Jack is looking for quality players from the First or Second Division."

Will the quest for new players undermine the current squad? "Not at all," said Hornsby, "we haven't got a

big first team squad. Our regulars number about 12 and, with two injuries a week on average, bringing in new boys won't cause any unrest."

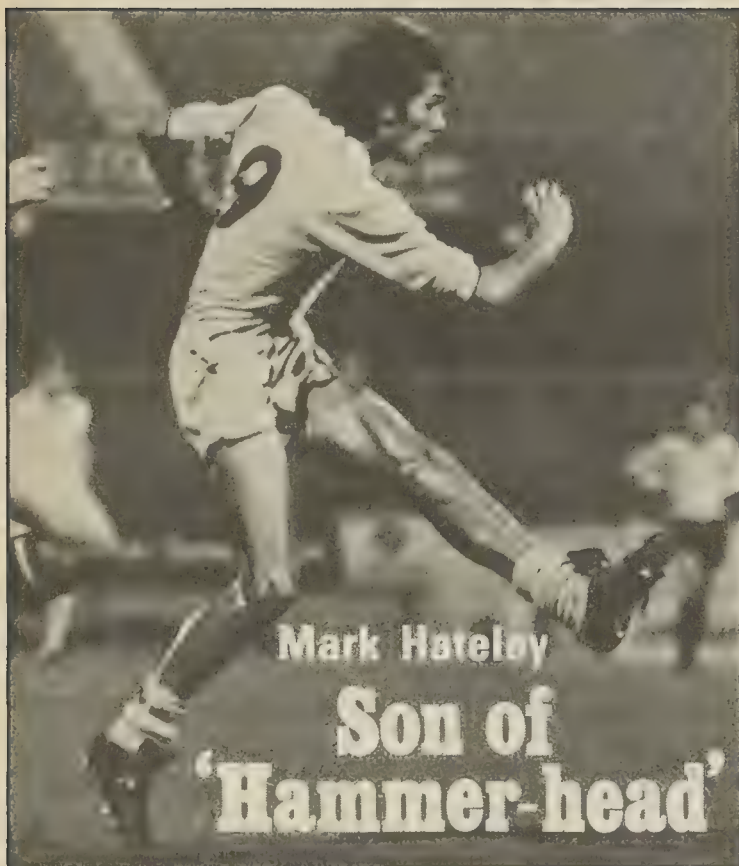
Hornsby, still only 23, used to play in midfield for Arsenal reserves and revels in the extra room it allows his particular skills. Jack Charlton got him from Shrewsbury for £45,000 and has seen the Cambridge born player repay his fee with intelligent performances and some breathtaking goals.

He inspired the team, for instance, to beat Exeter with a diving header after racing into the box and flying horizontally to meet a well struck cross from defender Ray Blackhall. A courageous goal.

Lack of confidence in front of goal and particularly in front of their own supporters is clear when you examine the League table. The side had only scored eight times in ten home games, which accounts for their position in the relegation zone.

So the scene is set in Sheffield for the Wednesday team, now on its feet from the Cup matches, after too many years on its back, to start climbing the League ladder.

The supporters, as Hornsby said, can play a great part. The team's performance against Arsenal has set the adrenalin flowing in many people, whose scarves during the Cup run were either brand new or had not seen the light of day for many years. Now is the time for them to show their true colours by turning up to cheer their team in their battle to escape from the Third Division.



Mark Hateley Son of 'Hammer-head'

FIRST came Tony Hateley, whose powerful heading made him the scourge of Football League defences over 15 years in the late Fifties, Sixties and early Seventies.

He sprang to prominence in scoring 77 goals in 131 League appearances for Notts County between 1958-62.

Aston Villa snapped him up for a bargain £22,000 and Hateley maintained his exceptional goalscoring deeds with 68 goals for them in 127 League games.

The 6ft 1in, 13-stone striker's greatest asset was his heading. It rivalled that of the legendary Tommy Lawton, and the media christened him "Hammer-Head".

Satirists and cartoonists exploited Hateley's aerial power and his penchant for changing clubs. He played for seven clubs, one of them twice, commanding transfer fees worth more than £400,000.

Impact

Now comes Hateley Mark Two. Tony's 17-year-old son Mark has signed pro forms for Coventry City this season and is already beginning to make an impact in reserve team football at Highfield Road.

But Mark, who went to Ormonde High School, Maghull, Liverpool, has not modelled his style on that of his father.

"I'm very much my own player, despite a lot of help from dad over the years," Mark explains. "It's marvellous having a father who played the game at the highest level."

"He has taught me to play to my strengths, but he treats me hard. If he says 'well done' you can bet your life you have done something exceptional."

Mark played for the Sefton area junior team in 1977-78. His goalscoring talents won him a trial at

Coventry and Gordon Milne, the manager, had no hesitation in signing him on November 7, his 17th birthday.

"Dad said I couldn't be joining a better club than Coventry," says Mark. "He's right again. Coventry have a great set-up. Everything is geared to helping a youngster make the grade."

"I live in their hostel and have played for their youth and reserve teams this season. It's been a great experience. My reserve appearances have been limited, for I'm competing with Mike Ferguson and Alan Green, two players with vast experience."

Mark's remarkable goalscoring ability was illustrated best by the one he scored for Coventry juniors against Peterborough in December.

"One of my best ever," beams Mark. "The ball came to me on the wing, I swept inside, reached the corner of the penalty-box, flicked it over a defender's head, took it across the area and smashed it into the corner of the net. Wish I could do that every week."

Everton were once interested in Hateley, but his father, lottery manager at Goodison Park, thought it best if he joined another club.

"It might have been difficult with dad and I at the same club. I hope people don't try to compare me with him. I'm totally different. My strength is running with the ball, taking on defenders."

"Dad dominated penalty-areas with his heading and ability to score goals. I hope I can be as good as he was."

"Of the current strikers, I'd settle for being as good as Cyrille Regis. He's magic."

Final word from Tony Hateley: "I think Mark will make the grade. He'll certainly be better than me. I envy him starting a football career. It's a wonderful life for any lad."

NEWPORT COUNTY'S 'Reformed' goalgetter

THE club without a chance and the player without a hope have come together in one of football's most startling rags-to-riches stories for years. The club is Newport County which must hold the Football League's all-comers record for obituary notices. The player is Howard Goddard, twice a free transfer and now with a six-figure valuation.

Manager Len Ashurst, himself one of football's unemployed following his sacking at Sheffield Wednesday last season, says of Goddard: "I want to see the lad play in the First Division. He has the ability and that is where, eventually, he will play."

"Howard has the qualities that count to play in top company — the pace and the control. That is why he scores with such consistency and why he will achieve success at any level. He is going all the way."

The future has not always been so confidently predicted for the 21-year-old Goddard, now in his sixth season as a League player! He stepped into first team football at 15 for Bournemouth and has conquered a playboy reputation to finally emerge as a gilded prospect.

"Maybe it was coming into football so quickly . . . but it certainly went to my head," agrees Goddard now. "No one could tell me anything; I knew it all. Now I've sorted myself out and I'm hungry for success."

"I was never a rogue but I could go wild on occasions and there is no doubt I did myself quite a lot of harm. I'm through that part of my life now and I've got a lot to thank County for."

Problems

After his bright start at Bournemouth had faded away, Goddard moved on to Swindon. There his career went further back as injury added to his problems: it seemed there was nothing left in football for Goddard — until Colin Addison took a hand.

Addison himself had returned from South Africa to accept the challenge of an apparent lost cause at Somerton Park. With well over half the 1976-77 season gone, Newport were floundering towards extinction, stranded in the familiar territory of the re-election zone and apparently buried so deep recovery looked impossible.

With a consistent run of good results, Addison pulled it off. He motivated Newport's players to heights they had never dreamt of reaching and they scrambled to safety in the last match of the season. No one was under any illusions about the penalty for failure. They would have been booted out of the League. Instead that fate befell the club they beat in the last match of the season, Worthington.

Addison had lit a flame at Newport and Goddard was the player who sent it flaring last season. From the miserable background of 13 League matches without a goal for Swindon, he came on a close season transfer and cracked in 18 first team goals.

"Colin straightened me out and now our new boss, Len Ashurst, has carried on the job," says Goddard. "Between them they made me realise

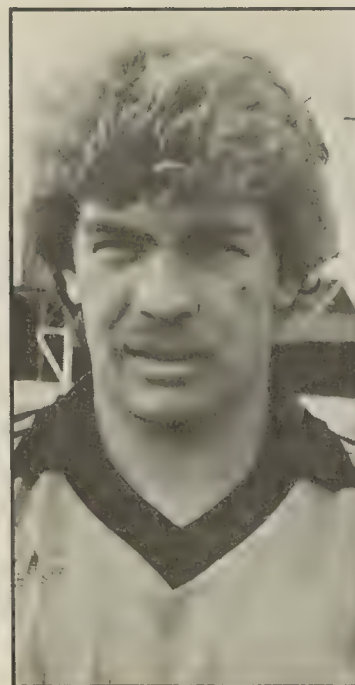
I had something to offer. I had been allowing it to go to waste."

Ashurst himself has come back off the ropes with a cool determination which rang alarm bells early this season among Newport's supporters. After the previous season's promotion challenge under Addison had slipped away, Ashurst made a private, but bold, decision that the team should be rebuilt.

Ashurst turned the playing staff inside out but the club remained deep in trouble at the foot of the Fourth Division table.

"I knew I was doing the right thing. I was certain it would come right. I never dreamt it would happen as fast as it did," says Ashurst now. Suddenly the freshly constructed team took-off, winning or drawing match after match and finding the class and the purpose to beat West Ham in the F.A. Cup.

"Now we have a club that is built to last," says Ashurst. "I'm a very different man from Colin Addison and had to do the job my way."



"There is no doubt Colin did a remarkable job at Somerton Park in saving the club from probably the most desperate of its many fights for survival. I saw my job as building on what he had achieved and making the transformation permanent."

Goddard is, of course, his spearhead. The goals thunder in from either foot, or head. His pace cuts defences apart, but he is far from a solo performer in this revitalised, stylish Newport side.

There is a local midfield discovery of rare talent in Steve Lowndes, supported by a core of solid experience from such players as Trevor Thompson (former of West Bromwich), Dave Bruton (ex-Swansea City) and Keith Oakes (previously of Peterborough). They are among the seven new players introduced to Somerton Park by the positive and determined Len Ashurst.



in the European Championship 4-0 whipping of Northern Ireland at Wembley.

Scots remarked the win was unconvincing and judging by watching the match live on the box, the white shirts were far from perfect. But I remain unconvinced Scotland could play badly against Northern Ireland and win by four goals.

What I am saying is this. Player for player Scotland are different class and with Jock Stein in charge to mould the individual units into a team I really believe we can get back to winning ways.

But please don't get carried away with this "we can beat anyone" attitude which saw us come a cropper in Argentina.

agoraphobia.

Keegan nevertheless was magnificent. He has become a much improved player since he went to West Germany and although I still won't admit he is as good as Kenny Dalglish, I would admit the gap between them has been closed.

But against Scotland he won't get so much room, no matter who our full-backs are — Sandy Jardine, Stuart Kennedy, Frankie Gray or yours truly.

And if you want to talk about the rest of the England team, how about Emlyn Hughes, who for most of the season, struggled to get into the Liverpool team because of Alan Hansen who has still to win his first Scottish cap,

Indeed, when you take away Keegan from this England team there are no more players touching his class. And that is not an encouraging sign of the times for them, because England have never been a one man team.

The world-class player they do have is Peter Shilton... but then he didn't play against Northern Ireland. Ray Clemence was brought in for the tie.

I suppose what I am trying to get at through all this is a happy medium. No "bring on the world" attitude. No "oh ye of little faith" routine. No forecasts of doom. Just an air of quiet, reserved confidence that we can have as joyful Wembley as we did two years ago when we won 2-1.

'WRONG FOR SCOTS TO WRITE-OFF ENGLAND'

DANNY McGRAIN

IT'S hard to believe the agony of Argentina was only eight months ago. Only around 200 days of pain since Scotland crumbled to dust in front of the world.

I thought the 1978 World Cup Finals were enough to teach every Scot in the world never again to think our football is the greatest thing since sliced bread.

I thought every arrogant member of the Tartan Army would look in the Argentina mirror and see themselves as others saw us. But no, it seems the scars of South America have healed in some places already.

That is the only explanation for outrageous forecasts by a certain faction of the Scottish Press — once dubbed "supporters with typewriters" — that we will hammer England at Wembley in May's British Championship.

Now, don't get me wrong. I am as confident as any we can beat Ron Greenwood's men. If I wasn't, I would give up the game tomorrow.

But it is wrong, so wrong, to write-off this new England side and get carried off on the bi-annual Wembley euphoria. The across the board predictions I read were based on the English performance

Let's have a look at this England re-emergence. For a start let me say I thought the Irish were a major disappointment in the tie in London.

I expected more from Sammy McIlroy and Jimmy and Chris Nicholl, although it was obviously a killer blow losing a second goal right from the restart.

I saw Jimmy Nicholl do a real marking job on Arsenal's Liam Brady in a League match earlier in the season and thought he would do the same again to Keegan, but the European Player of the Year got so much space it was just as well he didn't suffer from

it will almost certainly come in the Championship. But Emlyn has regained his place at Anfield.

Peter Barnes I like, although he never really stamped his authority on the Irish game. Undoubtedly though he is under a lot of pressure with his club side Manchester City who have stumbled on hard times.

I remain undecided about Trevor Brooking of West Ham. He never looks under pressure and that is certainly the hallmark of a good player, but... Tony Currie too obviously oozes class, but I feel the Scottish midfield will be more than the match for his arrogant style.

You know, sometimes I think it might be a great thing if for Scotland's sake the match against England was scrapped and then the fans could concentrate on beating the rest of the world.

But I know there are supporters who more or less live for their bi-annual trip to London and who are positively in heaven at the thought of a ball in the back of the England net.

And I know that I could never rob them of their pleasure... or that of the respective bank managers of the F.A. and S.F.A.

It is the greatest international football match in the world... the Celtic v. Rangers of inter country football.

I understand the emotion, the fervour it inspires... because the fixture is the child of history itself. But if you are in the Tartan Army... remember Argentina! See you in two weeks...



Peter Barnes (right) in action for England against Northern Ireland at Wembley recently.

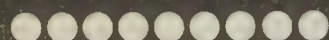
Danny McGrain

NEXT WEEK'S TARTAN TALK BY RANGERS' DEREK JOHNSTONE

NOBBY



THEN-
*they walked
out of
football...*



NOW-
*stars
with their
new clubs!*

THOMSON ALLAN~ Hearts' new international 'keeper



THOMSON Allan did not so much step into mild obscurity as total oblivion when he walked out on Dundee at the start of the season.

The 30-year-old former international goalkeeper, unhappy at being stuck in the forgotten world of the Dens Park reserves, decided that drastic action was needed if he was to get the move he so desperately wanted.

Allan's name just disappeared from the Press after all the fuss about the walk-out had died down. Dens Park manager Tommy Gemmell said: "Thomson is not helping his case. If anyone wants to buy him they will want to see him in action. He won't be playing as long as he stays away from the club."

It was easy to understand Allan's frustration at the situation. One minute he was being regarded as one of the safest and most consistent goalkeepers in Scot-

land, the next he was out in the cold.

He made the trip to West Germany as second choice goalkeeper to David Harvey for the 1974 World Cup Finals and he was used to the big-time occasion. However, his form deteriorated and veteran Ally Donaldson came back into the first team two years ago and immediately started to play magnificently.

Gemmell couldn't re-introduce Allan while Donaldson, a former Scottish League goalkeeper now in his second spell with the Dens Park club, continued to produce the goods.

The consistency of Donaldson was remarkable. Allan made brief appearances, but Donaldson always fought back to reclaim his first team spot.

Eventually Allan walked out. A stalemate developed between the 'keeper and the club and it looked as though a fine professional would drop out of the limelight forever. What a sad end to a great career, thought the fans.

However, little Meadowbank Thistle, looking for a goalkeeper, didn't forget Allan.

Former Hibs manager Willie McFarlane, who was Allan's boss at Easter Road for a while, contacted Gemmell and arranged to take the 'keeper to Meadowbank

on loan.

Allan was back in the old routine. He was hardly in the limelight with the little part-time Second Division side, but he grasped the opportunity to salvage his career as he might have a transfer to a big-money, glamour outfit.

It was like old times when Allan faced Falkirk in a League match in Edinburgh. Allan, who had kept fit by training with a Junior club, thwarted the Brockville side on numerous occasions with a first class display of goalkeeping and only a late goal from Ally McRoberts gave the visitors a 1-1 draw.

Allan, who has played for the full Scottish international side in a 2-1 victory over Norway and a 2-1 defeat from West Germany five years ago, may well remember that game against Falkirk for a long, long time.

"I still feel as fit as ever. I've never had any fitness problems, in fact.

"I've got to look to the future. I want to play for as long as possible and I haven't lost any of my ambitions."

No sooner had he made that remark than the courageous goalkeeper was on the move — again snapped-up by Scottish Premier Division club Hearts last month.

JOHN BOURKE~ Kilmarnock's award-winning striker

ONLY five months after quitting the game, Kilmarnock striker John Bourke was being presented with the Scottish Sportswriters' Personality of the Month award!

Just when it seemed that soccer would lose the goal-scoring talents of the lean and menacing Bourke, he has bounced back with remarkable zest.

Bourke, who cost Dundee United £65,000 from Dumbarton last season, helped the Tannadice club to the Scottish Cup Semi-Finals and third top place in the Premier League, but never really settled into the side.

United manager Jim McLean insists that his players stay in the Dundee area. It has created problems because some of the players prefer to live outside the city. Long-serving full-back Andy Rolland, who stays in Fife, wouldn't comply with the rule and eventually he moved to Dunfermline.

Worrying

Bourke wouldn't go into details of his well-publicised walk-out, but it seems he just didn't want to stay in the Dundee area for personal reasons and there was no compromise between player and manager.

Then came a worrying spell in soccer's wilderness. Bourke was adamant that he would not return to Tannadice. Watching the situation very closely, though, was Kilmarnock

manager Dave Sneddon.

The Rugby Park boss had money in the bank. Over the period of a year he had sold Davie Provan for £125,000 to Celtic, Jim Stewart for £110,000 to Middlesbrough, Iain McCulloch for £80,000 to Notts County and Gordon Smith for £65,000 to Rangers.

Sneddon was rebuilding the side and had already paid modest fees for Joe Cairney (Airdrie) and Jim Smith (Stirling Albion), but he was now prepared to tempt Bourke to Kilmarnock.

A fee of £45,000 was agreed between the clubs and Bourke was back in the scoring business. He is the type of player who was born to score goals. He has the knack of being in the right place at the right time and his coolness in front of goal is astonishing.

The goals started to flow again and in a Scottish Cup match against Clyde at Shawfield on treacherous conditions he showed his undoubted class to persuade the Scottish Sporting Press into nominating him for their monthly award.

He demoralised Clyde that night with a command performance. He scored two goals, set up another two and Kilmarnock roared into the next round of the Cup with a wonderful 5-1 victory away from home.

"I'm just glad to be back," says Bourke. "Kilmarnock are a go-ahead

club with a lot of good players and it's great to be here. It wasn't a very pleasant thought realising my career might be over. Now I'm making up for lost time."

With bustling, energetic Bourke in this mood Kilmarnock could be playing in the Premier Division next season. It will be interesting to see how he performs at Tannadice!



Another in our occasional series. This week we select a representative Rangers team from players since the last War.

SELECTING teams is a specialised job for which some individuals are paid exceedingly large amounts of cash. It is a task that carries with it threats and dangers if the job is not performed properly.

Trying to form a line-up from past and present players of a club as famous and as successful as Glasgow Rangers is just asking for trouble.

But this week SHOOT move into the hot-seat in an effort to form a line-up that will present a balanced side from only 77 of the players who made the club so powerful and so illustrious.

To make an awesome task simpler, we have decided to dismiss the teams and players who represented the club before the last War.

Many names spring immediately to mind in considering Rangers' goal-keepers. They have had some very dependable 'keepers over the years at Ibrox and, of course, present-day 'keepers Peter McCloy and Stewart Kennedy are both internationals.

George Niven and Billy Ritchie were another two who gave such long and valuable service to the club, but our final choice is a man who cost the club absolutely nothing to sign... Bobby Brown, who joined them from Queen's Park after he had made his international debut as an amateur.

Blond and curly-haired Brown was a bit of a showman, a debonair last line of defence. However, he never put his defence at risk. He was safe and confident in everything he did.



Willie Henderson was born with silky skills. On form there was little he couldn't achieve.

the qualities of both main contenders, Eric Caldow and Sammy Cox, two players from the past whose talents would be warmly applauded in today's scientific soccer world.

Both were sure and safe in the tackle, both had a fair turn of speed and, of course, both played for Scotland. Caldow just shades his way into the team, but it was a closely fought battle. His flair for setting up goals with long, probing passes and his ability for scoring from the penalty spot just held off the challenge of Cox.

Moving to the centre of the defence it is again a problem to select a player when the contenders are so finely balanced.

Ronnie McKinnon, calm and precise, played many times for Scotland, keeping his great foe and friend Billy McNeill on the sidelines. That feat alone earns him great praise.

Willie Woodburn, like McKinnon, was a clever centre-half. He was a tough character, but it was a great pity that such a wonderful club and country servant should end his career with a sine die ban by the SFA.

McKinnon and Woodburn were two fine players, but George Young, a huge man who looked anything but a footballer, is our choice. Young did his job at the heart of the defence and although his clearances may have been a shade on the crude side, he was still a very effective stopper. He was a rock upon which a lot of Rangers' early success after the War was built.

So who wins the number six shirt? There's only one man for that... the incomparable Jim Baxter, the man with a magic wand for a left foot.

The 'WEE PRIME MINISTER'

He was the sort of goalkeeper who inspired confidence in his rearguard and settled the entire team with his safe handling.

Brown, of course, was later to become manager of Scotland for several years before Tommy Docherty replaced him in '71.

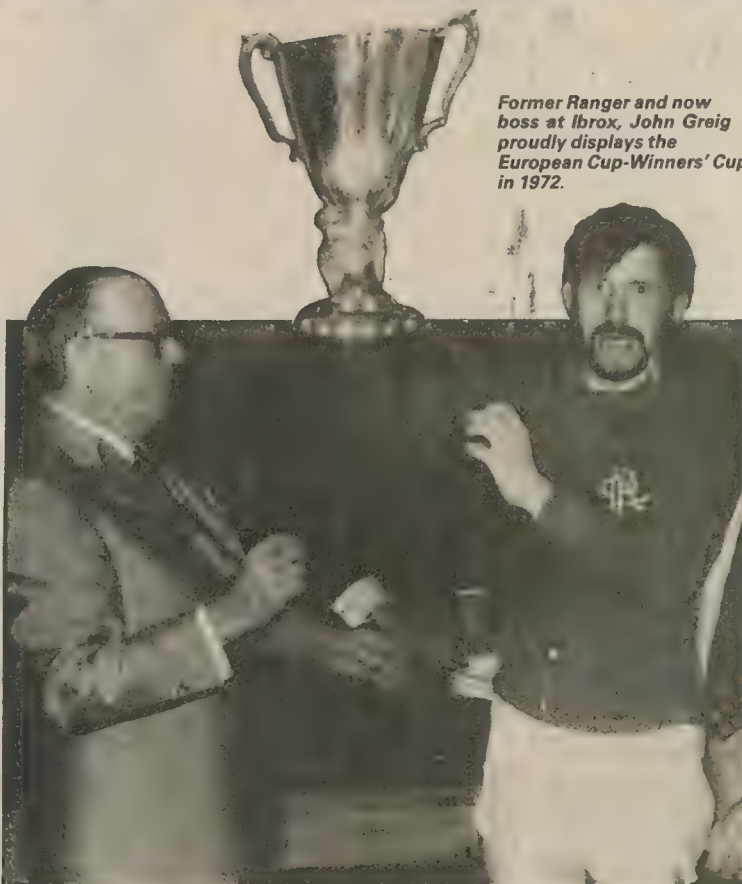
Kai Johansen, the super Scandinavian whose goal from 20-yards beat Celtic in the 1966 Scottish Cup Final, was extremely popular with the Ibrox support and so, too, was the unspectacular and uncompromising Bobby Shearer, but we need look no farther for our number two than the present owner of the shirt, the speedy Sandy Jardine.

Sensation

It took a disaster before Jardine got his chance in the Rangers first team, but when he won recognition he was never displaced. After the Ibrox side had been sensationally beaten 1-0 by Berwick Rangers in the opening round of the Scottish Cup in 1967, a young Jardine was introduced to the number four shirt.

Jardine strolled into the side as though he had been there for years. Only five months after making his debut he played against Bayern Munich in the European Cup Winners' Cup Final and was superb, although a late goal from Franz Roth in extra-time beat the Ibrox side. The other full-back position creates a headache.

It's almost impossible to separate



Former Ranger and now boss at Ibrox, John Greig proudly displays the European Cup-Winners' Cup in 1972.

Baxter had devastating talent. A man who could swing the game with just one flash of magic.

The lethargic looking Baxter is really without a rival for that position. Present boss John Greig, who played alongside Baxter, recalls: "You couldn't tell Jim anything. He did things his way, or not at all. A law unto himself."

"I remember a game against Partick Thistle in icy conditions. We went out to test our footwear before the kick-off. Everyone decided to play in rubber studded boots... everyone, that is, except Jim Baxter."

"He decided to play with screw-in studs and we all thought he had gone mad. What happened? As we slipped and slithered all over the place he waltzed his way through the game, performing as though the pitch was perfect. He actually defied the elements that night. Remarkable!"

And Greig, himself, is a must for our team of teams. He ended his playing career as a left-back, but he comes into our side as a forceful, attack-minded right-sided midfield player, a role he occupied for so long with rare distinction.

Greig's blistering shooting power and his all-round enthusiasm and leadership qualities would be invaluable to any team. Playing alongside Greig we choose Ian McColl, another talented player, who won many international caps and, like Bobby Brown, actually managed the Scottish team.

McColl was a 100-per-cent player. He was always on the go from the

kick-off to the final whistle. He gave you the impression he was so keen that he would play a quick game of five-a-side during the interval given half a chance.

With Greig and McColl supplying industry, the ingenuity would surely come from Ian McMillan, a player of precision and vision.

He was known as the "Wee Prime Minister" for the way he governed things from the middle of the park. His place in Rangers' history is secure. He was a major factor behind their incredible success in the late Fifties and early Sixties. He just edges out the young Bobby Russell. That's how highly we rate Russell. We're sure he won't mind playing second fiddle to McMillan on this occasion!

Zig-zag

Picking a player for the outside-right position was about as easy as skateboarding up the North face of the Eiger! Willie Waddell, introduced to the Ibrox first team while still a youngster, possessed fine skills and the ability to zig-zag past startled defenders while making and taking goals.

Alex Scott, who also had a spell in England with Everton, was another outside-right with the explosive ability to cut inside and fire unstoppable shots past despairing goalkeepers.

The man who gets the coveted berth is Willie Henderson, known as "Wee Willie Wonderful" for so many years at Ibrox. Henderson was a natural, a player who didn't have to practise for hours on end to develop his skills.

Henderson was born with silken ball control and to see him in action was to see poetry in football boots. On form there was little he couldn't achieve. Like Jimmy Johnstone, across Glasgow at Parkhead, he was a small player who relied heavily on skill to prise open a rear guard.

Teams used to establish Fort Knox-like defences at Ibrox but a couple of magnificent mazy runs from Henderson could leave a blanket defence in torment and turmoil.

He didn't score many goals simply because of his unselfish attitude. He chose to create them instead but one of his goals is burned on the memories of Rangers fans lucky to be at the game.

It came in a Scottish Cup match against Celtic at Ibrox in the early Sixties and was simply breathtaking in its conception and devastating in its delivery.

Henderson collected a neat cross-field pass from Baxter wove his way past two astonished and surprised defenders, and as the Celtic defence regrouped in strength Henderson went straight at them.

Bodies flew everywhere as they tried to block his path, but he squeezed between them all and fired a searing shot over the head of goalkeeper John Fallon.

"What made you shoot at that precise moment?" he was asked afterwards. Henderson, one of soccer's great jokers, smiled and said: "Och, I just got fed up 'eating Celtic players'."

Players would queue up for the sort of dazzling service Henderson could provide, so who is the lucky fellow who gets our number nine shirt? Colin

Present skipper at Rangers is top striker Derek Johnstone.



JIM BAXTER

Stein, Jim Forrest, Ralph Brand — all internationals — were in contention, but we don't believe there is anyone better qualified for the role than present captain and striker Derek Johnstone.

His ability in the air startles defenders. Johnstone is never afraid to get in among the flying boots in search of goals.

He's no slouch on the ground, either. He holds off tackles almost as well as Kenny Dalglish and can score with either foot from any range or angle.

An illustration of his talents came in a 5-3 League victory over Motherwell at Fir Park last season. He raced on to a through ball, beat a defender with a deft flick over his head, raced round him and threw himself full length at the ball to nod it past an astonished goalkeeper. Pele couldn't have done better!

Playing with old fashioned wingers we would go for Davy Wilson on the left. Wilson, a speed merchant, gave defenders a six yard start and then left them for dead as he raced past them.

He also scored goals on a consistent scale himself. But he was never a glory seeker. He was a good team man, a thorough professional.

In 1963 Scotland took on England at Wembley only two years after being destroyed 9-3 on the same ground. Wilson was in at outside-left, but he played only six minutes of the match there and, displaying unknown versatility, ended the game at left-back.

His Rangers team-mate Eric Caldow clashed with England striker Bobby Smith only six minutes after the start of the match and was carried off with a broken leg. It was in the days before substitutes and suddenly Wilson was being asked to play at both outside-left AND left-back!

He put in a wonderful performance and two goals from slim Jim Baxter gave the Scots sweet revenge with a 2-1 victory.

So here's the star-studded line-up again in 4-3-3 formation: Brown; Jardine, Young, Baxter, Caldow; Greig, McColl, McMillan; Henderson, Johnstone and Wilson. We would select Willie Waddell as our substitute.

It is a very good side . . . even if we say so ourselves!

governs the midfield

Eric Caldow collects the Scottish Cup after defeating Kilmarnock in the 1960 Final.



TAKE A BREAK—IT'S Quiz Time

1. Everton's talented midfield star Andy King (below) scored his first-ever League hat-trick when he helped the Goodison Park club to a 4-1 home victory against which First Division club?



2. Can you name the two American clubs interested in Charlton Athletic's Mike Flanagan?

3. Swansea City winger Kevin Moore recently moved to which Fourth Division club for around £10,000?

4. Rearrange the jumbled letters to find the name of a Football League manager and his club ... AAHRGM UNRRET (WSSYR-RUBEH).

5. Study the action photograph (right) taken between Chelsea and Leeds United a few seasons ago, and see if you can answer the following questions. (a) Mick

Jones, the player in the centre, has now retired. He played for which other club, (b) identify the two other players and (c) where was the game played?

6. Up to and including Saturday, February 24th, only two First Division clubs had failed to record a victory away from home. Birmingham City were one ... can you name the other?

7. On the same Saturday, which club were bottom of the Scottish Premier Division?

8. Peru internationals Oblitas and Rojas were recently linked with Bolton Wanderers, Blackpool or Brighton?

9. Bosco Jankovic, a Yugoslav international, joined which First Division club recently for around £100,000?

10. Inverness Thistle staged their Scottish Cup Second Round game after 27, 28 or 29 postponements?

11. Three Birmingham City players were drafted into the England Under-21 squad for a friendly in Holland recently before the game was called off. Can you name them?

12. Phil Parkes was transferred last month from Queens Park Rangers to West Ham for a world goal-keeper record fee of £565,000. Where did he start his League career?

13. Another player on the move recently was Orient's Peter Kitchen (right) who joined Fulham. Was the fee £100,000, £150,000 or £200,000?

14. Glasgow Rangers made which Scottish international striker available for transfer recently?

15. Cardiff City paid a club record transfer fee of £130,000 for striker Ronnie Moore. Which club was he signed from?



time in the history of the competition that the whole of the scheduled Fifth Round ties were postponed?

17. Wolves won a Fourth Round replay when they beat Newcastle United 1-0 at Molineux. Who scored the winner?



18. Spurs won through to the Fifth Round when they beat Wrexham 3-2 after extra-time at the Racecourse Ground in a Fourth Round replay. (a) What was the score after 90 minutes and (b) who was the Tottenham hero who scored a hat-trick?

19. Colchester United entertained Manchester United at Layer Road and lost narrowly 1-0, 2-1 or 3-2?

20. Name the manager who has guided Aldershot during this season's Cup competition.

GO FOR THE DOUBLE ANSWERS

ACROSS:— (1) Rotherham. (8) One. (9) Elf. (11) Tabs. (14) At. (15) Shrewsbury. (17) As. (18) Item. (19) El. (20) Nor. (21) Try. (23) Offend. (26) Bear. (28) Kerr. (30) St. (32) Via. (33) Southport. (35) Duty. (36) Year.
DOWN:— (1) Ross. (2) On. (3) Tears. (4)

Entwined. (5) Hebbard. (6) Me. (7) Aft. (10) Layer. (12) Aston. (13) Sum. (16) Halo. (21) Trevor. (22) Yorath. (24) First. (25) Skid. (27) Air. (29) Roy. (30) Sty. (31) The. (34) Pa.
Jumbled Name: DAVE WATSON.

F.A. CUP

Due to the severe weather conditions, the Fourth and Fifth Round ties were heavily affected. Can you answer the questions about the two rounds?

16. Was it the first, second or third

ANSWERS:

McAneaney.
Jones. 19. 1-0. 20. Tom
man Bell. 18. (a) 1-1. (b) Chris
15. Trammere. 16. First. 17. Nor-
and Mick Rathbone. 12. Walsall.
13. £150,000. 14. Derek Parlane.
Kevin Dillon, Kevin Broadhurst
Middlebrough. 10. 29. 11.
Motherwell. 8. Brighton. 9.
Chelsea. 6. Norwich City. 7.
Stamford Bridge, home of
Webb (left) and Joe Jordan. (c)
5. (a) Sheffield United. (b) Dave
Graham Turner (Shrewsbury).
Men. 3. Newport County. 4.
Rowles and New England Tea
1. Bristol City. 2. Tampa Bay

GOLDEN GOAL SCORED IN 1260 SECONDS



Steve Coppell (dark shirt) beats Paul Power of Manchester City to score his and United's second goal in their 3-0 win at Maine Road.

United's form mystifies STEVE COPPELL

'AT TIMES UNITED PLAY LIKE ELEVEN STRANGERS'

STEVE Coppell was more pleased than anyone else in the Manchester United team when they paid £300,000 for Micky Thomas.

It gave the England forward a proper wing partner for the first time since the departure of Gordon Hill to Derby County.

Says Coppell: "We tried Ashley Grimes and Sammy McLroy down the left after Gordon went to Derby, but neither was particularly suited to the role.

"Micky is much more direct than either of them. Having him in the side has restored the balance. I like to regard Micky and I as the thermometers of the team.

"When the side is playing well, we push up all the time, but when the team's struggling, we have to drop back and help out more. So you can tell by our positions whether United are going through a good spell or a bad one."

Coppell doesn't think Hill's departure put any extra pressure on him, as the only winger in the Old Trafford line-up.

"We missed Gordon's goals more than anything. But my game is completely different from his. I

don't think anyone expected me to suddenly start beating four men, turning on a sixpence and volleying the ball home from the edge of the box. I wish I could do that, but it's not my game.

"I don't even score that many goals. The most I've ever scored in a season is ten — and that was at Tranmere.

"It would bother me if I got into a lot of good scoring positions and missed them. But the way I play, it's rare for me to get a chance to shoot. So I regard my goals very much as a bonus.

"The funny thing is when I do score, the goals seem to come in little bursts. But generally, I average about one every six or seven games, which isn't exactly brilliant.

"I must admit, though, I particularly enjoyed the two goals I scored for United in our 3-0 win against rivals Manchester City at Maine Road last month."

Despite the arrival of Thomas, who has slotted in well at Old Trafford, United have disappointed in the League this season. Coppell is at a loss to explain their inconsistent form.

"The team looks brilliant on paper and sometimes we've managed to look as good on the field. But the next week, we're like 11 strangers.

"It wouldn't be so bad if it was something we could put our fingers on. But we've no idea why we can't maintain our form."

One of the problems has been United's form at Old Trafford, where they're normally invincible.

"We don't seem to have the same resilience as we had a few years back when we were really going well. Nothing seemed to be able to knock us out of our stride then. If we went a goal down, we just shook it off and came back twice as hard.

"But now, if we let a goal in, it seems to knock all the stuffing out of us. And we resort to banging long balls down the middle, which isn't even our strength. We're much better at building it up from the back and playing to feet."

With England manager Ron Greenwood allowing players to express their skills, Coppell finds he doesn't have to adjust at all when he plays for his country.

"Ron Greenwood has been

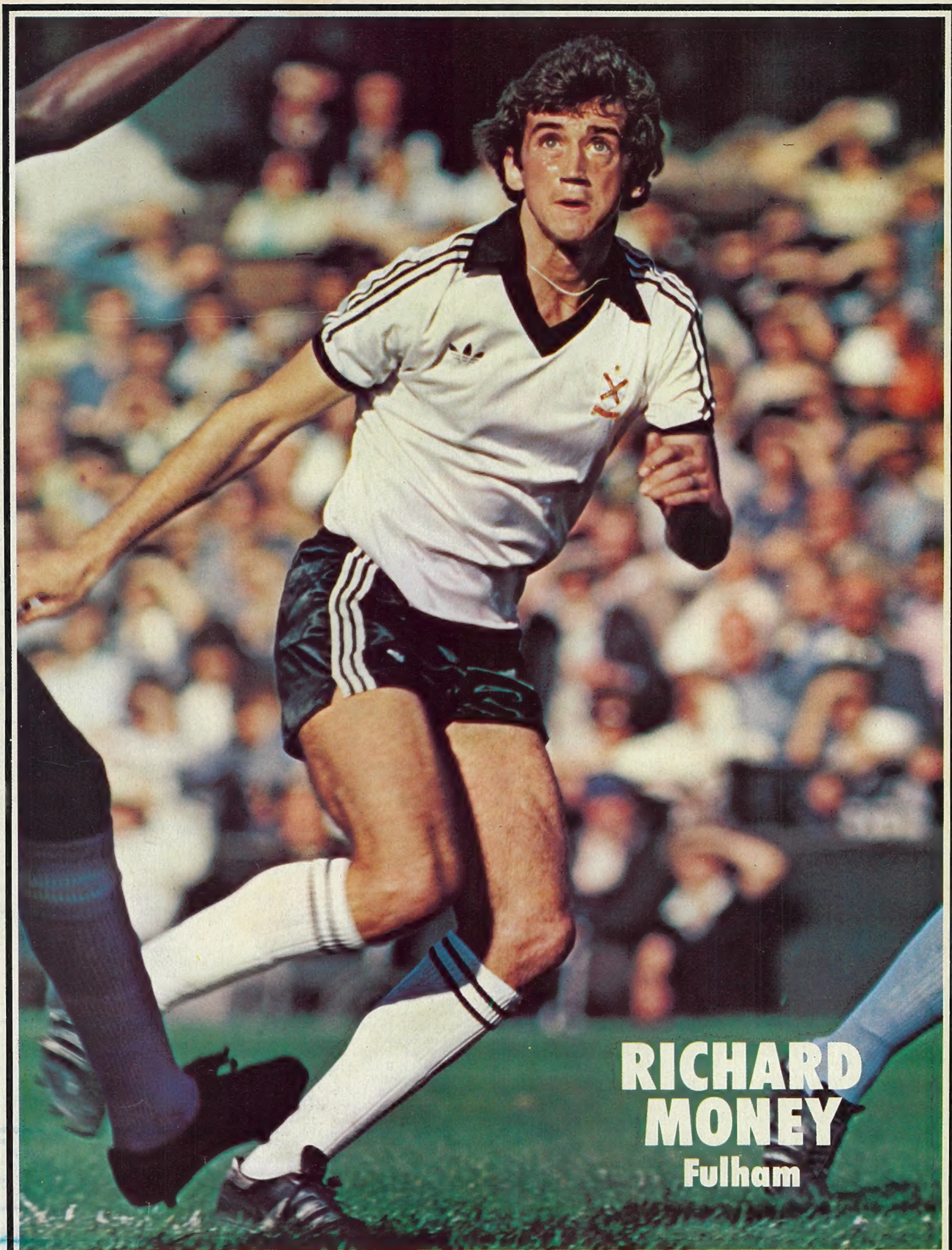
excellent. He just tells me that I can read the game as well as anybody and just to play it as I see fit.

"He's so casual, Ron, it almost seems as if he couldn't care less. And that makes the players a lot more relaxed as well.

"I think the one thing Ron would like me to do is be more positive, to go forward more. I'll have to work on that."



Micky Thomas



**RICHARD
MONEY**
Fulham

SHOOT!